

on and radio

Wednesday September 30 1998

Albania D 3.50	Greece D 5.00	Greenland D 1.00
Austria S 1.00	Hong Kong H 3.25	Iceland S 1.00
Belgium S 1.00	India S 1.00	Ireland S 1.00
Canada S 1.00	Indonesia S 1.00	Italy S 1.00
China S 1.00	Japan S 1.00	Latvia S 1.00
Czechia S 1.00	Korea S 1.00	Lithuania S 1.00
Denmark S 1.00	Malaysia S 1.00	Malta S 1.00
Egypt S 1.00	Malta S 1.00	Mexico S 1.00
Finland S 1.00	Morocco S 1.00	Netherlands S 1.00
France S 1.00	Norway S 1.00	Poland S 1.00
Germany S 1.00	Portugal S 1.00	Romania S 1.00
Gibraltar S 1.00	Russia S 1.00	Slovakia S 1.00
Greece S 1.00	Saudi Arabia S 1.00	Slovenia S 1.00
Hungary S 1.00	Spain S 1.00	Sweden S 1.00
Iceland S 1.00	Switzerland S 1.00	Taiwan S 1.00
Ireland S 1.00	Turkey S 1.00	USA S 1.00
Italy S 1.00	Ukraine S 1.00	
Japan S 1.00	USA S 1.00	

# The Guardian

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NEWSPAPER OF THE YEAR

Michael Holroyd and Margaret Drabble on

## Creative tension

G2 with European weather



Francis Wheen on Heath's dull autobiography

## Better dead than Ted

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The Thatcher legacy:

## Meltdown looms for the environment

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Blair warns Labour to prepare itself for hard choices and bitter attacks

# 'There's no backing down'

Michael White Political Editor

**T**ONY Blair last night consolidated his ascendancy over British politics with a Blackpool conference speech which challenged his party, and the country, to rally behind New Labour's agenda, but left his opponents no clear target to hit.

Mocking the Tories and pushing aside Liberal Democrat pretensions, he took a Thatcherite relish in the soundbite slogan: "No backing down. Backbone, not back down, is what Britain needs."

At the same time he packaged unpalatable parts of his message with a cunning worthy of Labour's greatest election winner, the Etonian-like Harold Wilson. Even critics within the conference hall were impressed. "It shows how he's matured," said one senior minister.

Mr Blair's 50-minute address repeatedly warned activists that hard choices and bitter attacks faced them in the drive to create a fairer and more efficient society. "Welcome to government," he explained.

It was a mid-term holding speech on what Mr Blair called "work in progress". Yet he combined the familiar and uncompromising Blairite demand for economic and social reform with a rhetoric which was less preachy and more radical than he has sounded on previous conference platforms.

The Prime Minister's sense that the tide is running Labour's way after years of free market ascendancy had clearly been boosted by Gerhard Schröder's victory in Sunday's German election. Thirteen of the EU's 15 member states now had centre-left governments, he said.

They represented "societies based on inclusion, not division, countries that are internationalist, not isolationist... reconnecting people to political idealism in an age where political ideology is distrusted".

Mr Blair repeatedly invoked society's collective strengths: "common endeavour" or "community" in the jargon of the much-vaunted Third Way.

The cumulative effect was to make him sound intermittently leftwing. Not content with lecturing Labour's traditional supporters — teachers, hospital workers, the unions and champions of the traditional welfare state — on the need to change their ways, he found the courage to lecture his new friends in business.

"Be honest. Your fundamental problem is not high interest rates or a high pound," he said in a remark directed more at the CBI than at TUC leaders in the hall. "It is too few first-class managers, too little investment, too little productivity and too



Tony Blair addresses the Labour Party conference in Blackpool yesterday, when he listed the Government's achievements and extolled the Third Way

PHOTOGRAPH: IAN WALDE

## The life of Philip and the lessons for Labour



**A**USTIN  
IT'S MORE, DOCTOR, IN BECOMING THE TOWN'S PEOPLE AS YOUR BLAIR.

Blackpool, 1998: "I've been reading a book about Philip of Macedonia. He had a bloke carrying a black stick with a pig's bladder on the end of it. The sole job of this bloke was to walk in to Philip's quarters at any hour of the day or night and belt him over the head with it to tell him he was only mortal and shouldn't get above himself. What do I need a bloke with a stick for — I've got John Prescott."

**M**ACEDONIA. 359BC. At the tender age of 23, Philip confirms the widespread belief that he is destined for greatness by seizing the throne from his nephew, Amyntas. Before becoming Absolute King, he had acted as the child's regent, displaying unusual political acumen.

In power, Philip sets about conquering rival factions in the city states, especially the old enemy, Athens. He is a master of political strategy, a military genius, and his methods are ruthless. Where diplomacy and spin-doctoring fail, Philip employs marriage, banking, corruption, sabotage and war to get his way. By 337BC, he has, despite sporadic uprisings from Athens, united Greece in his own image in order to debate the common enemy: the Persians. But the cause

is undermined when Philip falls out with his most trusted lieutenant, his son, Alexander. A year passes before Alexander is persuaded to come back from self-imposed exile, but it is already too late.

The best efforts of the bladder-wielder notwithstanding, Philip struggles to contain a pretension to deity status. In 336BC, he unveils a statue displaying him as a new Olympian god.

It is his final act. After the ceremony, Pausanias, a bodyguard bearing a grudge, proves his ruler's mortality by stabbing him to death.

— Stuart Millar



Philip II: a master of spin

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## Touching the nerve-ends that no one else can reach

### Commentary

Hugo Young

**A**FTER four years' riding above his party, Tony Blair chose the fifth to enlist it in his enterprise. Yesterday's was

the first conference speech in which he sounded as though he really belonged to the organisation he is supposed to be leading. Another way of saying that is that he at last finds it ready to be conferred upon it the task for which he has made it worthy. He retains his grandeur, is far and away the dominant figure. Cabinet colleagues from Robin Cook to Peter Mandelson gazed at him throughout as if with stars in their eyes. They were transfixed. The revivalist preacher continues to touch the nerve-

ends that none of them can reach. But this was his first serious attempt to convert his project into a collective effort. You are all responsible, he told the party. This is our shared work. I am no longer lecturing. Go out and deliver the message. Remember the £40 billion extra on health and education, and all the other sermon notes. And the party, which is now in soul as well as body his party, applauded itself to the rafters even for the rigours it has courageously imposed, for ex-

ample, on student finance. It feels almost hideously good about itself, having completed its re-fit into a machine for governing. Such dissenters as reached the rostrum have been silently bounded on to the deep defence, apologising for their little anxieties. Even union barons, for the most part, come only whispering to the mike. Heard through ears unsprung, much of what has been said here announced the kind of visionary, collaborative belief in a Blairite future that is the verbal equivalent of one of those old socialist-real-

ist paintings. But it did not have to be engineered — which possibly makes it more alarming. Nor is Mr Blair's own discourse any different. The Great Speech was, as usual, pre-announced almost as fast as the spinning world he invoked as the image of economic change. The headlines were methodically distributed between the previous day's papers, to fit the front-page prejudices of each. The handlers, as usual, are demented in their anxiety, and liable to instant rage at the faintest de-

violation from the message they've prescribed. But their man doesn't need any of this. He has the least invented personality of any prime minister since Alec Douglas-Home. His speech made a contrast with those of one of his role-models, Margaret Thatcher, stilled, laborious, absurdly mannered utterances, in which the chemistry between what she was and what she was not had to be so finely calibrated, year after year. Better than in any of his previous conference turn to page 2, column 1

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# In The Guardian G2 today: The race to transplant more and more human organs heats up

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## US rate cut to boost growth

Mark Atkinson  
in Washington

**T**HE United States asserted its global financial leadership yesterday by cutting interest rates in an attempt to stimulate flagging economic growth and steer away from the rocks of a worldwide depression.

With deepening recessions in Japan, South-east Asia and Russia threatening to spread to the West via panicky financial markets, the US Federal Reserve shaved the cost of borrowing by 0.25 of a percentage point to 5.25 per cent — the first cut in 24 years.

The reduction will have a knock-on effect on the cost of credit to companies and consumers from commercial banks and other lenders.

Announcing the widely expected move, Fed chairman Alan Greenspan said: "The action was taken to cushion the effects on prospective economic growth in the United States of increasing weakness in foreign economies and of less accommodative financial conditions domestically."

While a quarter point cut in US rates is unlikely to have a big impact on economic activity, it is expected, in time, to give a boost to financial market confidence, badly shaken by the turmoil which

world's biggest economy into recession at a time when output is tumbling in a third of the globe.

The cut was given the thumbs down by Wall Street, which fell more than 70 points within minutes of the announcement. This relatively small fall reflected disappointment that Mr Greenspan had not been bolder.

By this small amount, Mr Greenspan has indicated that he wants to tread carefully to avoid taking risks with inflation.

Further cuts in US interest rates are expected in the months ahead, with the UK likely to follow suit before the end of the year once it becomes clear that latent inflationary pressures have been extinguished by rapidly slowing economic growth, say analysts.

A question mark, however, remains over the European response to the crisis. Although inflation is low in Europe, central bankers in the big continental economies of Germany and France are preoccupied with monetary union.

They believe cuts in their interest rates could wreck the process of bringing them into line with those of the other countries which have signed up for the euro.

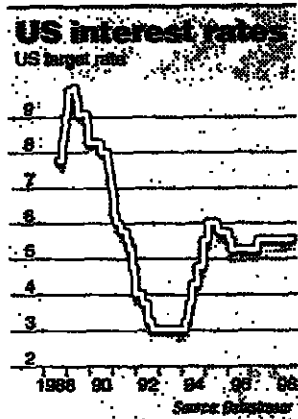
With Europe's planned single currency just three months away from its launch date, the Bundesbank and the Bank of France are expected to sit on their hands for the time being. But smaller countries, such as Spain and Ireland, which have much higher rates, are tipped to ease monetary policy, which will give a positive stimulus to the rest of the region.

Yesterday's cut in US rates comes on the eve of the annual meetings of the International Monetary Fund and the World Bank in Washington and gives policymakers a favourable backdrop against which to discuss their response to the world's worst economic and financial crisis in 50 years.

In its World Economic Outlook, published tomorrow, the IMF is expected to predict that the world economy will expand by just 2 per cent this year as a result of the crisis, down from more than 4 per cent in 1997.

To prevent Brazil, Latin America's biggest economy, falling victim to financial chaos, the IMF is expected to put together a multi-billion-dollar rescue package, although it might not be announced until after Brazil's general election on Sunday.

Wall St unimpressed by market maestro's cut, and City Notebook, page 12



began in Asia last summer, spread to Russia and is now threatening Latin America.

A further jolt to nervous markets was delivered last week by the failure of the US-based Long-Term Capital Management, a so-called hedge fund which makes bets on financial market movements on behalf of rich clients. With exposure of up to \$200 billion (£121 billion), it had to be bailed out by a consortium of private banks to prevent the failure of the global financial system.

The US rate cut signalled that Mr Greenspan is determined not to let spreading financial contagion drag the



An ethnic Albanian rebel helps refugees fleeing Kosovo's central Drenica region. Sixteen people have been found murdered near the village of Obrinje. PHOTOGRAPH: MARCO DI LAURO

## Among the 16 victims was a baby, beneath her mother's corpse, and a boy, his throat cut

Jonathan Steele reports from  
Obrinje, scene of the biggest single  
atrocities of the war in Kosovo

**T**HE young woman lay on the ground, her green dress swollen with a pregnancy that had been close to term. A ray of autumn sun filtered through the oak trees, lighting up the bloodstained remains of her head. Half the skull was split open, apparently from a bullet or bullets fired at close range.

Valmiri, her 18-month-old daughter, was sprawled beside her. The hood of the baby's purple anorak still shielded her face, but the lower half of her tiny body was hidden, covered by her mother's corpse as she fell.

Nearby, a few feet up the narrow gully, lay a boy aged about six or seven; his throat cut from the right ear in a sickening curve of gore. Three more women, their limbs contorted by the stiffness of death, were sprawled a few feet away, all shot in the head.

Even before we reached the glade in the woods, we knew it was going to be a gruesome sight. Word of this massacre of innocents filtered out on Monday afternoon when a

team of Western monitors was directed to the scene by an ethnic Albanian human rights group. A local Albanian newspaper carried the story yesterday morning and reporters hurried to the village of Gornje (Upper) Obrinje, about 20 miles west of Pristina, the capital of the Serb-run province.

The journey along dirt roads from Glogovac took us through the burnt-out villages and homes shattered by Serb artillery, which have become a routine sight as the late-summer Serb offensive has moved on. But we did not yet know we were going to see the biggest single atrocity that independent witnesses have come across in the six-month war.

A local farmer took us on foot down a muddy lane where the tracks of a heavy vehicle, a tank or an armoured personnel carrier, still scarred the soil. Then we crossed a field into a copse of oak. Half a dozen men stood under the trees, looking as blank and ashen as a series of shrouds. "Massacre?" we

asked pathetically, using a word that seems to be the same in almost every European language. They pointed to a steep-sided path meandering uphill.

Beyond the first group of corpses we found three more. A mother with two children aged 10 and four had managed to run a little further up the gully. Their extra speed had not helped. They, too, had been shot at short range. It was clear that this group of people — by now we had counted five women and four children among them — could not have been "killed in crossfire" or "accidentally hit by an artillery round". Without a shadow of doubt this was murder at close range.

"They spent the night in the shelter," said Hamidi Delija, standing by the trees. His parents, his wife, and two children were among the corpses. He pointed to the bodies of a couple of elderly relatives lying under a primitive tent of tarpaulin stretched across a wooden frame. The woman's left foot had been cut off. Part of the man's brain had been removed and placed beside his wife's corpse.

Wood for cooking, a small stove and two teapots stood at the edge of the shelter. The extended Delija family often



hid here during offensives in the Drenica region. "They all fled to Cirrez when this offensive started," said Sadri Delija, referring to a nearby village. "They were under siege there. Then the Serbs told them to go home to Gornje Obrinje, but when they got there it was under shellfire so they hid here."

We walked out of the wood to a field where men with spades were starting to dig graves in the damp ground, and on up the hill to Gornje Obrinje. The first family compound we reached was still smouldering. In a charred living room littered with tiles from the collapsed roof, a vil-

lager pointed out the third torso of a 55-year-old family elder.

In a blackened outhouse the villager showed us a stool where a farmer used to sit sharpening his knives. "The police found the man and asked him where the rest of the family had gone," said the neighbour, who apparently hid while the murderous raid was under way. The farmer took the police into the wood. After they had finished with the children, they killed him too. Among the 13 corpses we counted the gully and under the make-shift shelter, he and the other elderly man were the only males. Neither of them was of fighting age.

The villagers insisted on showing us more horror. Half a mile away in another wood, where a tank had smashed down a swath of oak saplings as it churned through the brush, Habib Delija, aged 55, and Hysen Delija, aged 40, lay dead. It was not clear whether they had tried to run from the tank or whether they had met their deaths later. The top of the younger man's head had been shot off.

By the time we turned back, the row of graves was growing in the clearing, as the silent diggers dug on. The villagers took us to one last corpse, a man in his 50s who

lay on a hillside where he apparently had been trying to flee. Of the 16 victims of Obrinje, he was the only one who might have been shot from a distance.

Why such ferocity, when the Serbs' onslaught in Kosovo is now meeting only minor and increasingly desperate resistance? Earlier in the summer the ethnic Albanian guerrillas of the Kosovo Liberation Army appeared to have turned about a third of the province into no-go areas for the Serbs. But since early August the Serbs have swept all before them. According to the Serb Media Centre in Pristina, two policemen were killed last Friday "in an attack by a heavily armed group of Albanians at about 3pm in Donje (Lower) Obrinje". The centre also reported that three hours later near Likovac, a village less than two miles away, five policemen died when their vehicle ran over a mine.

So the massacre of Obrinje, which took place around 10am the next morning, was perhaps some wild retaliation. But when was the murder of mothers and children been a justified response for men who claim to be a security force?

Paddy Ashdown, page 8; Leader comment, page 9

## Revivalist preacher who touches nerve-ends that no one else can reach

continued from page 1

speeches, Mr Blair's sincerity yesterday shone through every tortuous attempt to ensure that he was contrived.

It is hard to doubt that he really does believe every word he says, including the mantra that there's a third way towards the solution to every problem. The logic of financial rigour appeals to him with the same adamant obviousness as the case for public-private partnerships. Could there be even the smallest doubt about it? The sense that life really is a matter of

community, that individuals can only flourish in society, that doing things together rather than apart should be a rule of global as well as national conduct, shines irresistibly through a political brain that has not lost its capacity for innocence. If there was a key phrase it was the one that described his way of politics as "reconnecting people to political idealism in an age where political ideology is distrusted".

These sometimes sound like vapourishes. Yet they are a long way from what govern-

ment was saying two years ago. They set a different course. They do dispose of the canard that this is another Tory government. When they have truly acquired the status of cliché, emerging from the ridicule heaped on them in the Thatcher decades, it will be a sign of triumph not banality.

As it is, the centre grows ever wider, and Labour's occupation of it more comprehensive. It has become not just a party of government, but the only party of government. And that was the other

part of Mr Blair's message. There was a pre-emptively defensive note as he prepared his people for a tougher future. That was what government meant, he told it. Taking unpopular decisions, evoking instant complaints. The cadres had to be ready to support them.

I think this stuff about the incomparable difficulty of what lies ahead is exaggerated. Gordon Brown was saying the same thing on Monday, as if this government was always likely to be teetering on the brink of disaster,

**Blair and Brown are leading a laboratory experiment where there is hardly any short-term politics to be considered**

bravely facing up to near-insuperable challenges. The fact is that any British government with a big parliamentary majority is excused the largest element of potential disaster, the need to soothe MPs who have the power to frustrate or even destroy it. Ask John Major. Mr Blair and Mr Brown, by contrast, have the easiest of lives. They are leading a laboratory experiment, unknown in any coalitionist country such as is found all over Europe and in the United States, whereby there's hardly any short-term

politics to be considered. They are unchallengeable lords of their terrain.

On the other hand, they will have no alibi for failure. In asking the party to take responsibility yesterday, the leader also enlisted it for service in the bad times as well as the good. Though there's no reason to doubt that Blair and Blairism will survive a period of recessive growth, what we saw yesterday was a spreading of the burden.

What we also saw was the laying of the ground, to be cultivated with shining eyes

by the New Labour masses, for a second term.

I find all this solidarity cause for a certain watchfulness. Though Mr Blair is a decent man, decent men, untrammelled, can behave like bastards. For anyone who does not belong, there has never in the Blair era been a greater need for prudent scepticism. Since the Tories can't do the work, others have to keep their eyes open. But what nobody can deny is that this is a party, and not just a man, luxuriating in the rich possibilities of power.

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Almost one in four families led by one person who is likely to be younger, poorer and less well educated than continental counterparts

# Britain tops EU lone parent league

Stephen Bates in Brussels

**N**EARLY a quarter of all the families in Britain are now headed by lone parents, by far the highest proportion in western Europe, according to a report published yesterday.

The European Union's Luxembourg-based statistical unit paints a bleak picture of changing social trends, showing that British lone parents are likely to be younger, poorer, less well-educated and to have more dependent children than those on the Continent.

The survey, carrying the most recent available figures from 1996 from 13 of the 15 EU member states, excluding only Denmark and Sweden, shows 23 per cent of British families have a single parent,

compared with the European average of 14 per cent.

The report states: "The United Kingdom has by far the highest proportion. The rise in lone parenthood has been one of the most striking demographic and social trends in recent years. Between 1983 and 1996, the number of lone parents increased on average by 58 per cent."

"Lone parents are less likely to be economically active, have a much higher risk of unemployment and have lower levels of educational attainment. The disparities are considerably greater for lone mothers than for lone fathers."

In Britain the differences are even more marked than elsewhere, and the rise in single parents much steeper than anywhere else except Ireland — a 94 per cent increase since 1983. British div-

orce rates are the highest in Europe too.

In contrast, in southern European countries where religious observance and conservative social conventions remain strong, such as Greece and Spain, only 8 per cent of families are headed by a single parent. In France and Germany the proportions are 16 and 13 per cent.

The survey offers an intriguing snapshot of changing social mores across Europe — in the south single mothers appear to be more liberated, generally having higher educational qualifications than other heads of families.

In the southern states of Portugal, Spain, Italy and Greece too, single parents tend to be older. One constant is that most lone parents — 84 per cent — are women.

For Britain, the National

## Lone parent families

Number of families, millions, 1996

Country	Number of families (millions)
United Kingdom	7.815
Germany	1.368
France	1.291
Italy	0.877
Spain	0.660
Portugal	0.487
Sweden	0.218
Denmark	0.214
Finland	0.161
Poland	0.165
Greece	0.137
Ireland	0.101
EU average	0.607

Source: Eurostat

Council for One Parent Families offered several explanations for the changing social pattern. Andy Keen-Downs, its deputy director, said: "There are a number of theories, one of them being that

women now have greater expectations of playing a full role in society and of what they expect from their partners.

"Women are not willing to put up with what they used to

do. We have seen the demise of the shotgun wedding and fewer people are prepared to enter, or remain in, unhappy marriages."

Across the EU there are estimated to be 6.8 million parents bringing up children alone and at least 10.7 million children in single parent households — more than one in eight of all children.

The figures show that nearly a third of British lone parents are likely to have more than one child below school age, compared with one in five on the Continent.

Half of British single parents are under 35 — a much higher proportion than in other EU states. And although working single parents across the EU earn less than their married counterparts — 77 per cent of comparable earnings — in the United Kingdom that falls to

just 64 per cent. In Ireland the wage rate is only 59 per cent.

Lone mothers in Britain are less likely to be in work than those on the Continent — only 51 per cent are classed as economically active, compared with 70 per cent in other countries.

A lower proportion of British lone mothers have completed secondary education or gone to college than those in the rest of the EU — 36 per cent compared with 49 per cent of mothers elsewhere in Europe and 55 per cent of other British heads of families.

Mr Keen-Downs said: "Single parents are poorer and single mothers become poorer. Single mothers tend to come from poorer backgrounds."

"People blame the trendy 1980s but really the trend changed in the 1980s and

1990s, as these figures show. You could argue there is a connection with poverty and unemployment, which puts all sorts of pressures on relationships... if young women cannot find a lifetime partner with reasonable opportunities, they are more likely to go it alone."

The Council stressed that the majority of British lone parents are married or in a steady relationship at the time their children are born. Only 1 per cent are teenaged mothers but 39 per cent — the fastest growing group — have never been married.

"Very few women choose to become a single parent. It is not an easy option. Most set out with the intention of being in a stable relationship. Nearly four-fifths of newborn children last year were registered by both parents," he said.

## Thieves find hard cheese easy pickings

Geoffrey Gibbs

**J**AMIE Montgomery knew it couldn't have been nice. Nor did it seem likely that Wallace and Gromit had mistaken his cold store for the moon on their grand day out.

The only question that remained was whether he was dealing with a professional gang of cheese snatchers or a sinister example of skulduggery from a jealous rival seeking to prevent his unprecedented run of success as Britain's top cheese-maker.

The burglars knew exactly what they were after as they bumped across the muddy field at the back of Mr Montgomery's Somerset farm. They entered the farm's cold store during the night and loaded 274 mature cheddar cheeses into their waiting vehicle.

Five tonnes of the award-winning cheese disappeared during the weekend raid, leaving the family-run business despondent and £30,000 out of pocket.

Mr Montgomery, a third generation cheese maker, has achieved unparalleled success in his chosen pro-



Jamie Montgomery with a cheese similar to the ones stolen. 'One theory is that a jealous rival would think it worthwhile pinching them' PHOTOGRAPH: CHRIS BROWN

fession and counts leading stores and delicatessens such as Fortnum and Mason, Harrods and Neal's Yard among stockists of his products.

For the past two years the traditional cheddar made from unpasteurised milk at the family farm near Win-

canton has carried all before it at the industry's prestigious annual awards ceremony.

But preparations for a renewed assault on the gold medals at today's British Cheese Awards in London have been hit badly by the theft.

Losses represent almost one month's production and the cheeses were careful to take only cheeses that had been maturing for 12 months or more.

Mr Montgomery, who has put up a £2,000 reward for the return of the cheeses, said he was keeping an

open mind about who was behind the theft.

"One theory is that a jealous rival would think it worthwhile pinching and dumping the cheese in order to create a hole in the market that they could fill," he said yesterday.

Another theory is that it

has already been shipped abroad, possibly to America.

A spokesman for Avon and Somerset said: "It is an awful lot of cheese to get rid of and we would appeal to anybody who is offered cheese to get in touch with Crimestoppers."

## This cloying tart leaves a bad taste behind

### Review

Phil Daoust

Lily Savage  
Demigate Theatre  
Northampton

**T**HERE must be a word for Lily Savage's show. For get's offers refuse, muck, sewage, sludge, offal, garbage, pig-squill, slop, hogwash, bilgewater and dross among many others, but none of them seems quite up to it. They don't convey the emptiness, the tedium, the way it sets your teeth on edge. Imagine two hours of fingernails scraping a blackboard and you'll get some idea.

This festival of kitsch starts with 40 minutes or so of Bob Downe, aka comic actor Mark Trevorron. A "confirmed bachelor" from Down Under, he looks like a catalogue model past his best, dresses in the most revolting 1970s gear you can imagine and does deliberately tacky song-and-dance numbers mixed in with risqué repartee.

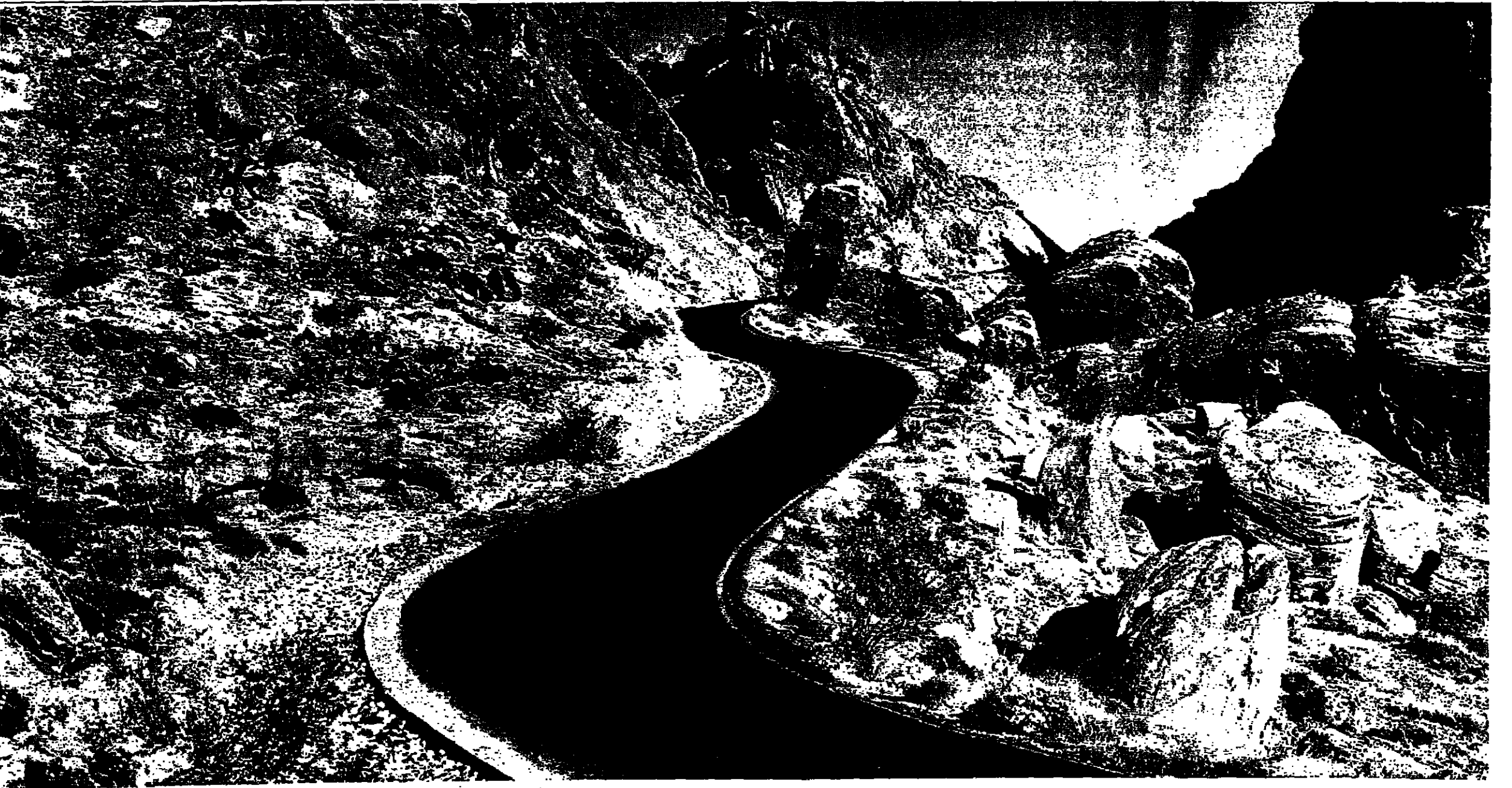
The joke soon wears thin, but if you can keep your eyes and ears open long enough, you'll eventually catch him crooning *Fly Me to the Moon* while making the exits are-located-over-the-wings hand gesture and declaring: "Welcome to GayJet." He calls himself "a Radio 2 guy in a Radio 1 world", but it's worse than that: he's old-style Radio 2, before it got modern.

It ends with an hour of Savage, 6ft-plus of hulking man

squeezed into a series of flamboyant dresses, who still, remarkably, manages to avoid showing any stage presence. Emerging from a slant bottle and proceeding to press my old gog into service, from the mysterious transformation of Coronation Street's Nicky Platt (eligible for his free bus pass, that one) to the already overexposed subject of Clinton, Lewinsky and the dress full of "Billy Bunk". Savage just gives us Another Chance To Hear those dirty-ish put-downs and crowd-like voice. Whether or not you like Lily (and I used to), the character's already established as a tart with no heart: this was a missed opportunity to build on the role.

In small doses, either Savage or Downe would have been bearable. But the whole evening was a chase for the easy laugh — as much bad faith as bad taste. This didn't seem to bother the sold-out audience, but Savage has a huge following because of his stints on *The Big Breakfast* and *Blankety Blank*, and a high TV profile seems to guarantee performers an easy ride.

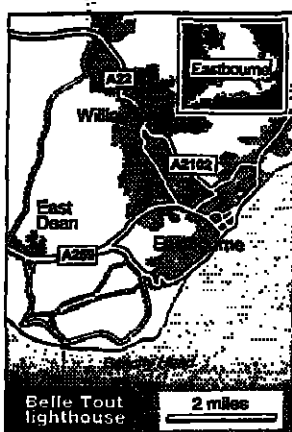
The one enjoyable interlude came from Sonia, the bubbly little Munchkin who Sang For Britain in the 1993 Eurovision and wound up the first half of the show with a few singalong numbers. She alone showed some heart, some old-style professionalism. Like Downe, she's got a good voice: unlike him, she can actually be bothered to use it. For a few moments, she gave an *a cappella* You To Me Are Everything. The evening actually seemed bearable.



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Stuart Millar reports on the trials of a lighthouse family aiming to stop their treasured home sliding into the sea

## Cliff fall speeds drive to save Belle

**T**HE rumble could be heard for miles, the column of white dust obscuring the clear blue autumn sky. In 60 seconds, tens of thousands of tonnes of chalk crumbled into the sea and Belle Tout, the only permanently inhabited former lighthouse in the country, took another step nearer the cliff edge and disaster.

For the residents, Mark and Louise Roberts, the collapse was an untimely reminder

that the battle against erosion to save their 166-year-old granite lighthouse home from a 300ft drop into the sea at Beachy Head, East Sussex, is fast running out of time. As their campaign enters its second year this week, the Roberts fear the latest fall could have scuppered a plan to lift the entire structure and move it, intact, 70 yards inland to relative safety.

The plan to move Belle Tout to the same distance from the edge as it was when it was

built in 1832 requires enough stable ground between the cliff and the tower to dig all the way around its perimeter.

"We won't know until the contractors have checked the state of the cliff," Mr Roberts, aged 83, said yesterday.

"But I don't know if we will be able to save it because the ground is now unsafe. There have been falls all along the cliff and there will be more."

Mr Roberts was on his way to a meeting with Eastbourne council about the removal

plans when the fall happened, but his wife was at home with their seven-month-old baby.

"There was a long rumble that sounded like thunder," Mrs Roberts, aged 29, said.

She added: "It lasted for at least a minute and then I saw this huge cloud of chalk mist billowing up from the edge."

When they carried out an investigation, they found that there was a pile of rubble three storeys high at the bottom of the cliff.

Belle Tout may have sur-

vived that fall. But the Roberts never know when the next collapse will happen.

They say the problem is that the erosion occurs in huge chunks rather than taking place at a steady pace each year.

The lighthouse, which featured in the BBC's adaptation of Fay Weldon's *Life and Loves of a She-Devil*, is popular with visitors who come for the panoramic views across to Beachy Head on one side.

Seven Sisters cliffs on the

other and the wild seascape in between.

But the ground has now become so dangerous that visitors are being warned to stay away. "Walkers ought not to let their curiosity get the better of them and go up to the edge to get a better look. We don't know if the cliff is structurally sound," said Mr Roberts.

It would be a bitter blow if the plans had to be scrapped. The Roberts knew the lighthouse would have to be

shunted even before they moved there in 1996. Since then they have lived with the constant threat of their home being plunged over the cliff,

while they hammered out the removal plans with the freeholders, Eastbourne council. The family has raised 80 per cent of the £300,000 cost, despite being refused a lottery grant, and have already obtained planning permission and listed building consent.

This week they were hopeful that the final obstacle, the

terms of their lease for the resited tower, could be agreed with the council, which insists that it is just as determined to save Belle Tout.

Despite the setbacks, the Roberts remained determined to see their labour of love through to fruition.

"As long as the lighthouse is standing there, we will find a way of moving it, even if we have to dismantle it and rebuild it," said Mr Roberts. "We can't just let it slide into the sea."



The 166-year-old granite Belle Tout lighthouse at Beachy Head, Sussex, which is a step closer to collapsing into the sea after the latest cliff fall

PHOTOGRAPH: ROGER BAMBER

## Union challenges BSI on 100-hour working week

Burton West

**A** LEADING trade union is to launch the first legal challenge over long working hours on behalf of staff complaining of working more than 100 hours a week. The challenge comes only one day before the implementation of the EU's Working Time Directive, which will limit the working week to 48 hours.

The legal action follows a survey of staff at the British Standards Institution, which issues the famous kite mark for achieving technical standards. The study found increasing complaints about work-related stress.

The poll of 200 members of the Manufacturing Science and Finance Union showed that 84 per cent believed their jobs were more stressful than a year ago.

BSI staff were said to be at "breaking point" because of increased workloads.

Roger Lyons, general secretary of the MSF, said: "This is an example of skilled and professional people under increasing pressure, not only in the workplace but also when they travel. They face the double jeopardy of meeting unrealistic targets and of being forced to travel along busy roads such as the M25."

The union claimed there had been accidents involving staff said to be overtired because of their workloads. It said some of its members at BSI were working 100 hours over seven days, every week.

The union's findings are bolstered by a new report, published today by the Economic and Social Research Council. The report, *Work Now, Pay Later?*, takes into account findings from 5,000 households.

It paints a grim picture of British working habits and reveals that both employers and workers remain ignorant of their rights. "Working long hours over three years can

lead to an almost 80 per cent rise in the proportion of women with health problems," it says.

The report goes on to reveal that more than half of those people working standard hours take weekly exercise, compared with only 37 per cent of those who work 60 hours a week or more.

It also says that long working hours can take a toll on family life: "Forty-two per cent of fathers working standard hours talk to their child most days, compared with only 20 per cent of fathers working over 48 hours."

"One interpretation of this research is that women are coming home to a second shift — with the family," says Jonathan Scales, one of the report's authors. "Men, by comparison are almost unaware of the damage they are doing to themselves. What we have is a work-obsessive culture that will take its toll on people's health within years, if nothing is done."

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# Theatre fears ROH 'fall-out'

Amelia Gentleman on the crisis marring Sadler's Wells' relaunch

**S**ADLER'S Wells theatre could face closure as a result of the measures taken by the Royal Opera House to secure Covent Garden's long-term future, it announced yesterday.

Chief executive Ian Albery said the future of the theatre in Islington, north London, had been put in jeopardy by the Arts Council's decision to close the Opera House next year — cancelling 25 weeks of performances scheduled for Sadler's Wells. The theatre has been left with an immediate gap in its revenue of more than £1 million as well as severe long-term financial problems.

The uncertainty has overshadowed what should have been the triumphant opening of the new £44 million Sadler's Wells theatre next

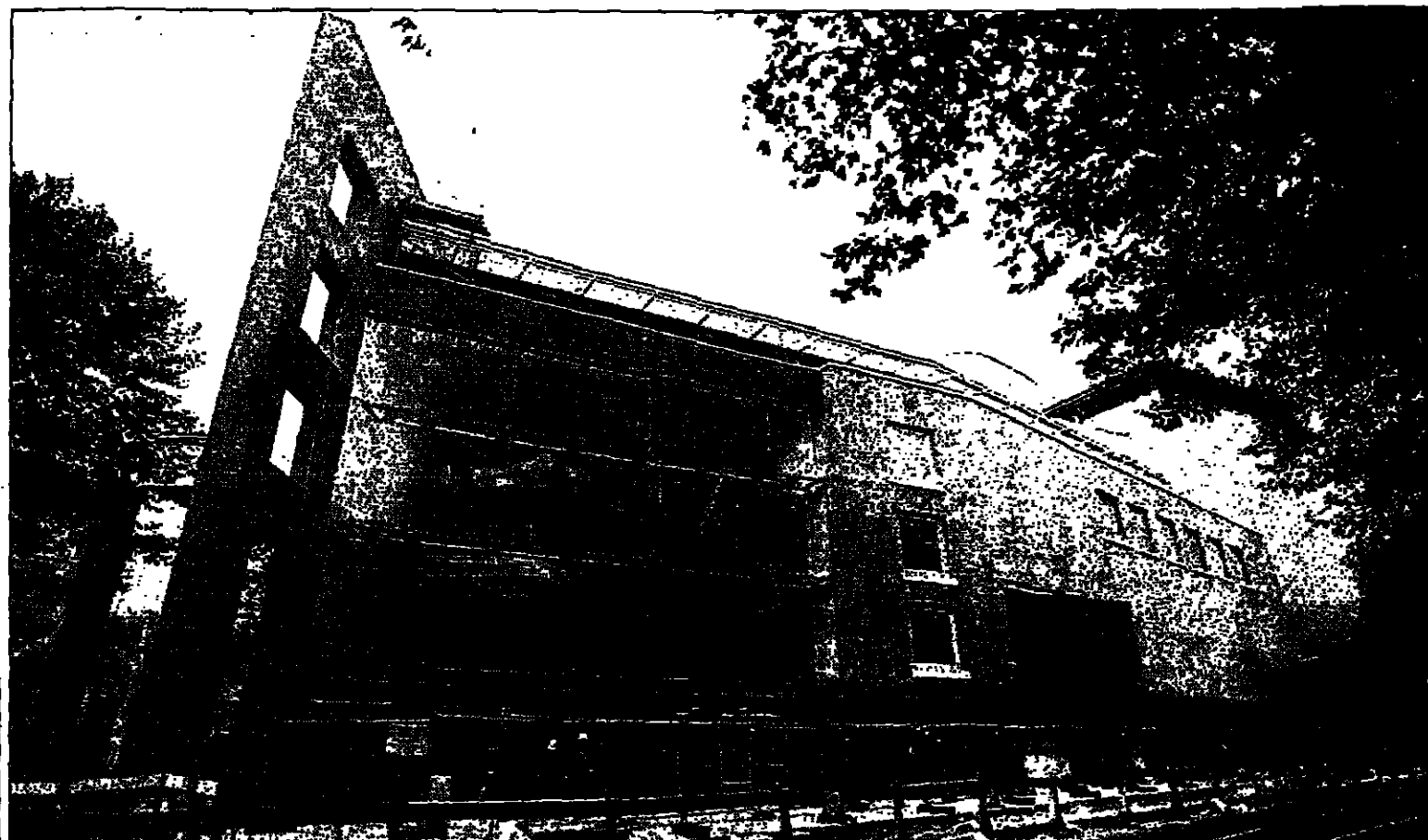
month. Unless a replacement programme can be found, the theatre will have to close for six months from April.

Mr Albery was negotiating with the Arts Council yesterday to establish if and how the £1 million shortfall can be recovered.

The surprise announcement of the ROH's temporary closure earlier this month left Sadler's Wells management scrambling for alternative performers to fill the holes in its programme between April and September 1999. The theatre's fundraising capacity has also been damaged — threatening its survival.

No figure has been put on the overall damage, but Mr Albery said the theatre would be calculating the knock-on cost of this "cock-up" for some time to come.

"I need hardly point out the



The new £44 million Sadler's Wells theatre in Islington, north London, due to open next month but facing an uncertain future. PHOTOGRAPH: FRANK BARON

dangers for a theatre that opens in October and closes six months later for a period of six months. It would mean redundancies for all our staff of over 100.

"More important is the effect it will have on our fundraising — believe me, we will not get sponsorship if we haven't got an artistic programme."

He warned: "This isn't a matter of three, four or five million — this could cost our

entire project. This lack of thought and co-ordination could put in jeopardy Sadler's Wells as an institution."

Successful fundraising is crucial to the theatre's survival; over the financial year 1998/1999 it will receive £220,000 in public funding — mainly from the London Arts Board — but needs to raise another £700,000 through fundraising and corporate sponsorship. In addition, the theatre still has to raise

around £3 million to pay for its new building.

Sadler's Wells had reluctantly agreed to house the ROH in its new premises for six months in 1999 while the Opera House's own building was completed; the ROH was contracted to rent the new premises from Sadler's Wells for £1 million.

Now the contract has been broken, Sadler's Wells must not only retrieve this sum, but needs also to pay another

company to perform instead. A high calibre company, like the Frankfurt Ballet, costs as much as £250,000 a week, of which about £100,000 can be recouped through the box office. The shortfall has to be met by fundraising, which could prove difficult at such a late stage.

If negotiations with the Arts Council go well and £1 million compensation is received, Neil Hinds, Sadler's Wells arts programming di-

rector, is confident he can find replacement performers.

Programming is usually done two years ahead so Sadler's Wells will have to rely on scooping up those troupes whose plans have recently fallen through or pick on second-rate substitutes.

Chairman Ian Hay-Davison said: "It would be a bit disappointing to go to all this trouble to open a new theatre only to put on tedious shows."



'This lack of thought and co-ordination could put in jeopardy Sadler's Wells as an institution'

— Ian Albery, chief executive

But if the Arts Council is unable to help with alternative funding, Sadler's Wells may be forced to resort to using either the Royal Opera House or the Arts Council for breach of contract.

An Arts Council spokeswoman said: "The Royal Opera House shutdown is a obviously a difficult and very sensitive issue for Sadler's Wells so it may take quite a lot of work to try to sort it out."

## 'People's channel' projects a new image

Janine Gibson  
Media Correspondent

**I**N its first on-screen revamp for 10 years, ITV yesterday revealed a £1 million logo, which it hopes will make it a true "people's channel".

The new logo, a heart symbol and a slogan — "TV from the heart" — will appear on trailers from October 5. There is also a poster campaign based on some of the channel's hit shows, advertising the change.

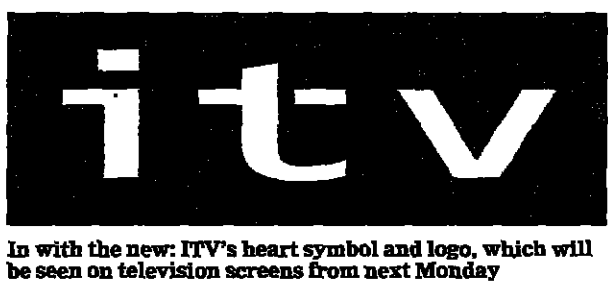
Unveiling the network's new look yesterday, John Hardie, ITV marketing and commercial director, said it was important for the network to have an adaptable

symbol, along the lines of BBC1's hot air balloon and BBC2's number 2.

The channel has devised several uses for the heart, although Mr Hardie emphasised the symbol itself would not be a "sentimental Valentine-type heart". He said it would show that ITV was at the "heart of the action, at the heart of current affairs, at the heart of the nation". So far, the designs include a Union Jack pendant, a cake, and fireworks.

The network hopes a more friendly and approachable outlook will help reinforce its aim to reach a 40 per cent share of the peak-time audience by the end of 2000.

The director of programmes, David Liddiment,



In with the new: ITV's heart symbol and logo, which will be seen on television screens from next Monday

also announced some of the programming highlights for next year. ITV has signed an exclusive deal to show the entire library of James Bond movies next year, culminating in the terrestrial premiere of Goldeneye. As part of the deal, ITV will screen the television premiere of the

latest Bond movie, Tomorrow Never Dies and its follow-up, Bond 19, before Sky television.

Mr Liddiment also announced a deal with one of the world's top sitcom producers, US-based Carney Warner.

The company behind Ro-

seanne, The Cosby Show and Third Rock From The Sun is to produce a UK version of its US series That 70s Show for ITV. Carney Warner aims to make up to 22 episodes a year of the sitcom.

As part of a drive to attract more ABCI viewers to ITV, Mr Liddiment has also lured

one of the country's most prominent drama writers from Channel 4. Alan Bleasdale has written a six-part adaptation of Charles Dickens' Oliver Twist which will be broadcast next year.

Also aimed at younger, up-market viewers, is a new series, Wonderful You, starring Greg Wise. Telling the stories of a group of 30-year-old north Londoners, the series is made by the producers of Men Behaving Badly.

Along with these innovations, there will be more docu-soaps. Real Families is a "no-holds-barred look at everyday family life", there will be a second series of Airline, and a one-off special, Parking Wars, will be made into a series.

## Inquiry over Menson killing

Amelia Gentleman

**T**HE Police Complaints Authority has launched an inquiry into why the Metropolitan police made serious mistakes in dealing with the death of Michael Menson, the black musician set on fire in north London.

Mr Menson, aged 30, was seen with his clothes on fire near the North Circular road in January last year. He died in Billericay hospital, Essex, two weeks later. Police initially assumed he had set himself alight and had not launched a criminal inquiry for 12 hours. A verdict of unlawful killing was recorded at an inquest this month.

Solicitors for his family complained about the way officers handled the case. PCA member Jim Elliott has appointed Ben Gunn, chief constable of Cambridgeshire, as investigating officer.

Scotland Yard has admitted in a letter to the family that senior officers made serious mistakes. Since an internal review, three of the four officers concerned have retired or are about to retire.

Mr Menson suffered burns



Michael Menson: Police made serious mistakes

to his back, thighs and buttocks. Forensic scientists and pathologists testified at the inquest that the nature of his injuries made it almost inconceivable that he had set fire to himself.

Suresh Grover, a spokesman for the Menson family, said: "Their paramount concern is to convince the police to establish a fresh team to investigate the murder. They are concerned that too many resources will be put into the complaint and not into re-investigating the murder."

## Airline drug smuggler caught after reporting his lost luggage — packed with 16 kilos of cannabis

Geoffrey Gibbs

**A**DRUG smuggler who flew into Britain with more than 60 blocks of cannabis in his suitcase was arrested after complaining to lost property that his luggage had gone missing.

Christopher Dowling, a

burglar alarm engineer from County Kildare, hid the drugs before taking a flight from Dublin to Cardiff. Unknown to him, his luggage took a different flight. When he got to Cardiff his suitcase was nowhere to be seen on the airport's baggage carousel. So, Dowling reported it missing

and checked into a local bed and breakfast while he waited for it to turn up.

The errant bag was eventually traced to Teeside airport where customs officers opened it to make sure they were returning it with its rightful owner. Inside they discovered 16 kilos of cannabis carefully wrapped

in a blanket among Dowling's possessions.

Dowling, 20, was arrested by customs officials when he went to pick it up from the airport the next day, and this week was sentenced to two years in a young offenders' institution after admitting a charge of smuggling. Judge

Martin Stephens told him: "Anyone who imports cannabis on this scale can only expect to be imprisoned."

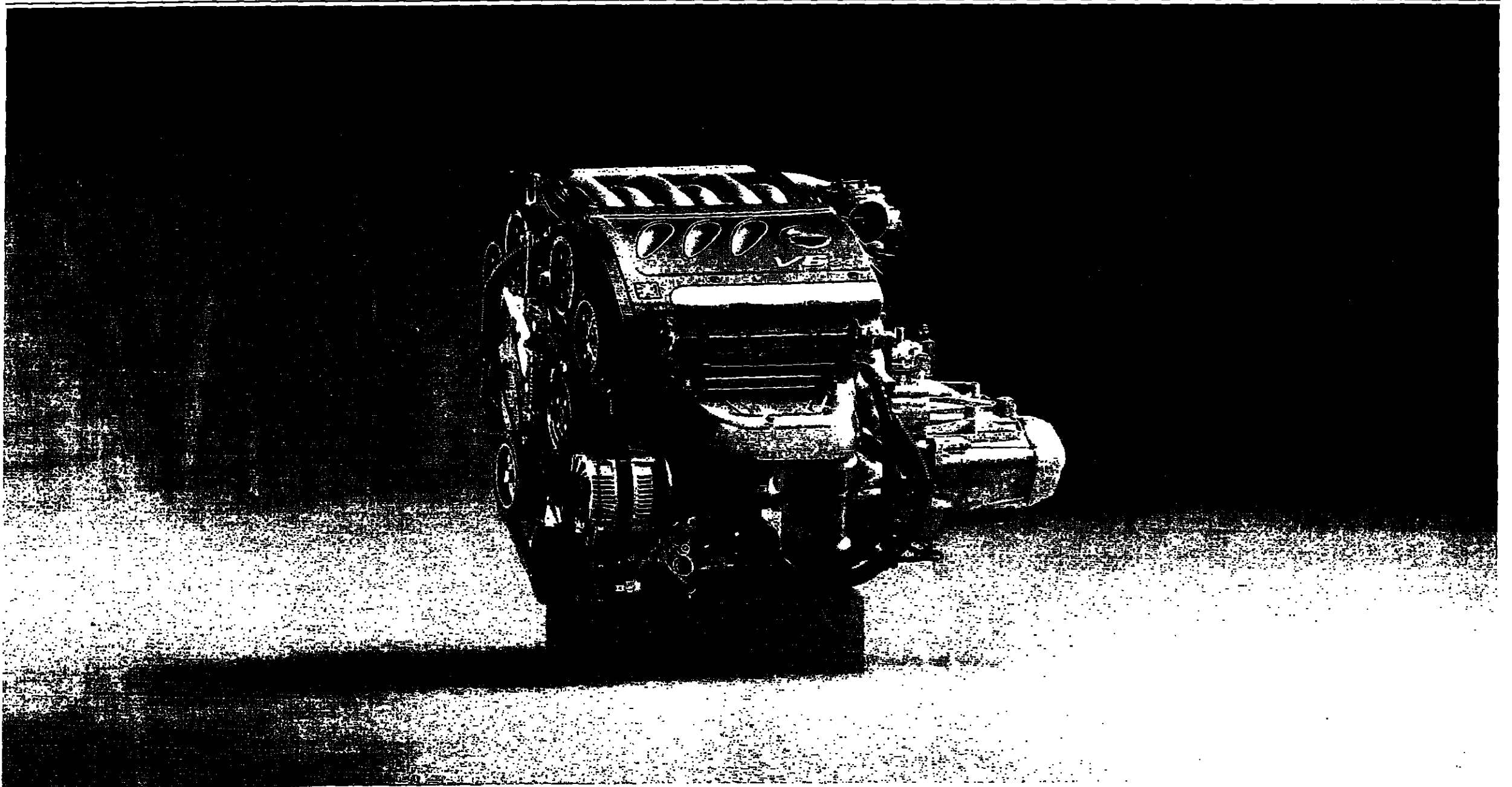
Cardiff crown court heard that the 64 blocks of cannabis resin found in the suitcase had a street value of £65,000.

Stephen Hopkins, defending, said Dowling had been

acting as a courier for a man whom he had met in a Dublin bar.

"He asked him to do the job and he agreed," said Mr Hopkins. "His gain was little but the eventual cost quite considerable."

Dowling, he said, had accepted the offer because he needed the money.



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# Greens target nuclear fuel

Is atomic energy doomed in the new Germany?  
**Ian Traynor**  
reports from Bonn

**T**HE German Greens, poised to step into national government for the first time, called yesterday for a swift end to nuclear power in the country: one of their most fundamental demands, and one which sets the scene for an early row in Gerhard Schröder's cabinet.

Kerstin Miller, co-leader of the Greens in the outgoing parliament, said the "quick" phasing out of nuclear power would be a key issue in the negotiations for a coalition of Social Democrats and Greens, which begin on Friday.

Other leading Greens played down the issue. "In the general direction on this issue there is no difference between the Greens and the Social Democrats," said the Völkner said. "It's no longer a polarising issue."

But Mr Schröder, who is fond of declaring that if reality collides with ideology it is usually reality which is right, seems likely to keep his options open on the issue of nuclear energy, despite his party's pledge to go down the non-nuclear route.

Mr Schröder, who has been the premier of the northern state of Lower Saxony for eight years, led a "red-green" coalition in the state in 1990-94. One reason for its demise was constant bickering over nuclear energy.

Lower Saxony runs on nuclear fuel. Last year almost 70 per cent of the electricity it used was nuclear-generated, almost twice the national average, putting Lower Saxony second in the league table for nuclear power consumption in the 16 federal states.

Germany's 19 nuclear plants supply about one tenth of the country's energy needs and a third of its electricity.

A string of public relations disasters involving nuclear waste transports and leaky containers seems to have turned German public opinion against nuclear power. A poll last month showed 61 per cent opposed to nuclear power, and police officers say



German police are fed up of having to defend convoys of nuclear waste from saboteurs, such as this protestor in Ahaus

PHOTOGRAPH BY ROLAND WEHRHAUCH

their units are fed up with being used to protect the annual convoys of waste material from protesters and saboteurs.

As a result, the German nuclear lobby is on the defensive and the big utilities companies and power station operators are anxious about the talks that the new government is likely to convene to try to reach an agreement on energy policy.

During the election campaign the heads of two of the biggest nuclear operating firms said there would be no non-nuclear agreement with the new government, and hinted they could take their business abroad.

The differences between the big parties on nuclear power appear stark. The outgoing centre-right government of

Helmut Kohl backed nuclear power unequivocally, and last month the environment minister, Angela Merkel, said all talk of phasing out nuclear energy was "irresponsible".

In contrast, the election manifesto of Mr Schröder's Social Democratic Party

(SPD) says: "Atomic power cannot be advocated because of the large safety risks and the danger of unforeseeable damage."

"The SPD-led government will pave the way to safe energy supplies without atomic power. The SPD-led govern-

ment will do its utmost to end the use of nuclear power as quickly as possible."

It is those last four words which are crucial in what appears to be an unambiguous commitment to no nukes.

Mr Schröder, who takes the line that party manifestos are

not to be ignored, always stresses that while he supports phasing out nuclear power, it will take much longer than generally supposed: about 30 years.

But the Greens energy experts and environmentalists are calling for the plants to be closed down within 5-12 years.

A strategy paper written last month by a close ally of Mr Schröder, Wolfgang Jüttner, the SPD environment minister in Lower Saxony, made it plain that there was unlikely to be a quick breakthrough on the issue.

It pointed out that the nuclear lobby was "misreading the high level of latent rejection of nuclear energy by the public" and affirmed that "ending nuclear energy is an important political aim for the SPD".

While campaigning he made a point of inspecting the new chancellery being built in Berlin on Mr Kohl's orders, and asking about kindergarten facilities for seven-year-old Clara.

His daughter Clara has just started school. So we're going to keep Hanover as our main place of residence. At least until the move to Berlin."

For years Mr Schröder has steered clear of Bonn, which he regards as dull and incestuous — he even boycotted important parliamentary meetings.

But he is very keen to associate his period in office with the birth of "the Berlin Republic", the rejuvenated Germany symbolised by the shift of government to the biggest city next year.

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## New chancellor snubs Bonn's political elite

HELMUT KOHL may have lost his post but he can at least hang on to the Rhineland bungalow that has long been the nerve-centre of power, writes Ian Traynor.

Gerhard Schröder snubbed the political elite of Bonn yesterday by saying that he and his wife were staying in their modest three-room flat in Hanover.

He told the Bildzeitung newspaper: "Our daughter Clara has just started school. So we're going to keep Hanover as our main place of residence. At least until the move to Berlin."

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## News in brief

### Arafat meets Clinton to nail differences

PRESIDENT BILL Clinton met the Palestinian leader, Yasser Arafat, yesterday in an attempt to overcome the obstacles to an agreement on a controversial new round of Israeli troop withdrawals from the West Bank.

Mr Clinton met Mr Arafat and the Israeli prime minister, Benjamin Netanyahu, together on Monday, and invited them to return in about two weeks for a summit to agree the timetable for the pullout. Under the latest compromise, Israel would withdraw from 13 per cent of the West Bank if 3 per cent of it was set aside as a nature reserve that could not be developed by either side. In return, security measures would be increased by the Palestinians. — Reuters, Washington.

David Sharrock writes: An explosion in the West Bank city of Ramallah yesterday killed a member of the militant Islamist group Hamas and injured two others. It appeared to be an "own goal" car bombing as Israel prepared to close down for the holiest day in the Jewish calendar, Yom Kippur.

### Concessions to Democrats

THE Republican chairman of the United States House of Representatives Judiciary committee said yesterday that the committee's leading Democratic and Republican investigators would meet the independent counsel Kenneth Starr's officials within a week to go over the documents left out of his report to Congress. Mr Starr has said they are irrelevant, but Democrats say they may include material that would help President Clinton's case. Republicans on the committee are trying to build goodwill with Democrats before next week's vote on an impeachment inquiry. "We are trying to accommodate them," the chairman, Henry Hyde, told reporters. He is considering bowing to some Democrat demands, including granting them the power to subpoena witnesses and documents concerning the Monica Lewinsky affair. — AP, Washington.

### Basques postpone demands

BASQUE nationalists agreed yesterday to postpone their demands for independence until the separatist group ETA consolidates the ceasefire it declared two weeks ago. The leader of the Basque Nationalist Party, Xabier Arzalluz, softened his demands for immediate political concessions at a meeting with the Spanish prime minister, José María Aznar — their first since the ceasefire came into effect.

Mr Arzalluz has been under pressure to deliver a quick return on the ceasefire after his party persuaded ETA to declare the truce. Mr Aznar has promised he will be "generous" with ETA, which has killed 673 people in the past 30 years, if it abandons violence permanently. — Adela Gooch, Madrid.

### Czechs welcome new Slovakia

AFTER Slovakia's authoritarian prime minister Vladimir Meciar's defeat in the polls on Sunday, the Czech Republic yesterday gave "full-hearted support" to its neighbour joining the accelerated process for European Union membership.

"Slovakia's period of non-splendid isolation is over," the Czech prime minister, Miloš Zeman, said.

His foreign minister, Jan Kavan, said Slovakia would now be welcome to join the Czechs, Poles and Hungarians in the Visegrad group, which co-ordinates their applications to join Nato and the EU. — Martin Walker, Brussels.

### Taliban deal final blow

AFGHANISTAN'S Taliban militia captured the last district of central Bamiyan province yesterday and its jets bombed enemy positions north of Kabul, the Pakistan-based Afghan Islamic Press said.

It said the Taliban captured the district after residents hoisted white flags. It was previously under the control of the Shi'ite Muslim faction Hizbe Wahadat, which is backed by Iran.

AFP quoted a Taliban spokesman as saying that the militia's jets had also bombed the positions of Ahmed Shah Massoud, the military chief of the ousted Afghan government, north of Kabul, and his headquarters in the neighbouring Panjshir valley. — Reuters, Islamabad.

## EU steel groups accuse Asians of dumping

David Gow  
Industrial Editor

**E**UROPEAN steel producers want Brussels to take punitive action to stem a flood of cheap imports from the troubled economies of Asia that have made the European Union a net importer of steel for the first time.

Warning that European producers face a minimum €1.5 billion drop in profits in the second half of this year, Eurofer, the industry's trade body, is accusing Far East countries of dumping steel. The organisation is urging the European Commission to impose countervailing duties on four main products.

The news came yesterday as shares in the big European steel groups such as British Steel, Thyssen, of Germany, and Usinor, of France, fell sharply after Hoogovens, the Dutch producer, issued a profits warning and noted declining sales and prices for its products.

British Steel, which is expected in mid-November to post a steep cut in pre-tax profits for the six months to September, and which could even be forced into the red next year, said its prices had fallen by between 5 and 15 per cent because of cheap imports and over-stocking. "The storm clouds are gather-

ing," one official said.

According to an internal Eurofer analysis seen by the Guardian, imports to the EU in the first half of this year have risen on average by nearly 75 per cent and the increases are a direct result of the Asian economic crisis and the collapse of steel demand in that region.

Tonnages into Europe from Asia are running six times higher than they were last year, at 282,000 tonnes a month, compared with 40,000 tonnes. Asian products account for 16 per cent of all steel imports compared with four per cent a year ago.

Imports, allegedly selling at prices below the cost of production and carrying state subsidies, are mainly coming from China, India, Iran, Taiwan and South Korea. But Eurofer says other countries which would usually export to the Far East are flooding the EU.

With overall EU exports down 19 per cent in the first five months of this year, and by 56 per cent to Asia alone, orders in the second quarter fell nearly 30 per cent. Prices in the last three months of this year are set to drop by up to a fifth.

Eurofer says the EU is importing 1.8 million tonnes and exporting 1.5 million tonnes a month and, if trends continue, the trade deficit by the end of the year will be 4 mil-

lion tonnes, compared with a positive balance of 10 million tonnes last year.

The UK Steel Association said: "The situation in Europe is unsustainable and can only get worse. We are calling on the commission to act as quickly as possible by bringing in trade measures to help curtail this dumping." It wants Brussels to impose countervailing duties.

British Steel earlier this month closed a rolling-mill in Rotherham with the loss of 126 jobs. Avesta Sheffield, the Stockholm-based stainless steel manufacturer in which it holds a 51 per cent stake, said it would shed 1,000 jobs because of a collapse in prices.

Senior officials at British Steel said yesterday it had no plans for further closures. Instead, it is pressing ahead with its efficiency drive, including the "de-layering" of up to 10,000 managers, and cutting investment. But some analysts say that it could begin trading at a loss unless it can boost prices next year.

Central and east European countries such as Bulgaria have boosted exports by 38 per cent while those of Serbia are up 77 per cent and Turkey by 94 per cent. Analysts say traditional exporters like Brazil and South Africa are moving into the EU market as they are hit by the Asian crisis.

## BMW chairman warns of more Rover job cuts

David Gow

**B**ERND Pischetsrieder, chairman of BMW, yesterday raised the spectre of further job losses at Rover, the German car firm's UK subsidiary.

Rover, already shedding 1,500 of its 40,000 workers and cutting production to four days a week, saw its share of the UK market fall below 9 per cent in August and foreign sales hit by the strength of sterling.

Some analysts are predicting that the car-maker, which lost £31 million in 1997, could be heading for a £500 million loss this year.

But officials at the Paris Motor Show, while admitting the firm would make a loss, said it would be lower. Mr Pischetsrieder told Reuters news agency in Paris that Rover was talking to staff and unions about cuts and expected these "would go beyond what we already announced". Short-term measures were required which could be disclosed within a fortnight.

Tony Woodley, national automotive secretary of the TGWU union, insisted no such talks were taking place.

"We do have meetings in the next two weeks and know that their market

share fell in August, they're being hit by the strong pound and they're funding a huge investment programme. It's not the best of times for Rover," he said.

Rover's target is to be trading profitably by 2000 and company officials admit this is unlikely. Rover's problems contrasted with performances from European rivals such as Mercedes and VW which announced in Paris sales increases of 28 and 5.2 per cent respectively.

Swedish car firm Volvo said it was on course to beat its sales target of 400,000 this year.

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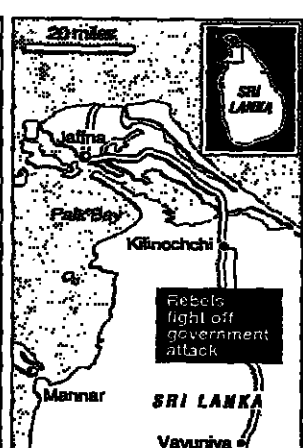
# 700 killed in Sri Lanka as rebels take key town

**Susannah Price in Colombo**

**M**ORE than 700 Sri Lankan soldiers and Tamil Tigers have been reported killed in fighting for a strategically important town and a key highway.

The defence ministry said yesterday that 377 rebels and more than 200 soldiers had been killed in fighting around Kilinochchi.

The Tigers claimed to have captured the town with the loss of 940 of their guerrillas. There are few independent reports of the fighting as there are no civilians in Kilinochchi.



The Tigers held it until the government drove them out in 1996 and it is now a ghost town surrounded by bunkers and barbed wire.

Journalists are barred from visiting the war areas except when taken on a tour.

There were more casualties as the government tried to regain control of the A9 highway, which links government-controlled areas in the south and in the northern Jaffna peninsula.

Taking control of the highway would allow the government to move goods by land rather than the much more expensive options of air and sea.

It also needs to show that it can defeat the Tigers.

The defence ministry said that more than 100 Tigers and 62 soldiers had been killed in the battle for the highway.

The land route is absolutely crucial for supplying Jaffna — as well as for the government's political plans, said a former air force commander, Air Vice-Marshal Harry Goonetilleke.

"This is one big mess as far as army is concerned. It seems the army has suffered very serious casualties."

Seriously wounded soldiers are being flown by helicopter to the capital, Colombo, where fleets of ambulances have been ferrying them to hospital.

The Tigers say they will hand over a large number of bodies to the army through the International Committee of the Red Cross.

"We are in touch with both sides and we will be taking trucks up to the north to transport the bodies," said the ICRC spokesman, Harsha Gunawardene.

This latest fighting is a blow to the government's hope of ending its 16-month offensive against the Tamil Tigers, known as Jaya Sikuru or Operation Assured Victory.

The Tigers have called their latest operation Ceaseless Waves Two. In the first operation of that name they overran a military garrison in Mullaitivu in the north east in July 1996, killing more than a thousand soldiers.

The Tigers want to set up an independent homeland for Tamils in the north and east of Sri Lanka.

The government would accept greater devolution but says the country cannot be split in two.

Despite its vastly superior numbers, it seems unable to defeat the Tigers, and it has introduced censorship in an effort to hide the large number of casualties the rebels inflicted in May.

Yesterday the government launched the latest stage in its offensive to take the A9 by attacking the Tigers near a town on the highway about 18 miles south of Kilinochchi known as Mankulam. The government said it had made progress.

Even if progress has been made, the fighting at Kilinochchi will undoubtedly dent the army's morale as well as its defence capability, and put an end for the time being to the government's hope of bolstering its fading popularity by a military victory.



His eye blackened, Malaysia's former deputy prime minister, Anwar Ibrahim, leaves court. The state case against him looked shaky after other accused changed their testimony

# Battered Anwar in court

**John Sweeney in Kuala Lumpur on the appearance of the sacked Malaysian deputy prime minister**

**T**HE prisoner — until recently Malaysia's deputy prime minister — emerged yesterday from a well beneath Kuala Lumpur's number four sessions court past an iron-barred gate, looking pale, drawn and thin, his left temple bruised, his left eye black.

Appearing in public for the first time since his arrest on September 20, Anwar Ibrahim pleaded not guilty to the nine offences of corruption and engaging in homosexual acts with which he is charged.

Despite his experiences since being detained in the wake of anti-government

demonstrations by his supporters, he looked in good spirits.

His plea of not guilty to the sex charges looked like being bolstered later in the day when the two men on whom the prosecution seem to base its case were reported to have reversed their testimony against Mr Anwar.

The two are Mr Anwar's adopted brother, Sukma Dermawan, aged 37, and the politician's former speechwriter Munawar Anes, aged 51. They confessed to being sodomised by Mr Anwar and are serving six months in jail.

Lawyers involved in the case told Reuters news agency that the two had decided to appeal against conviction.

Asked if they were retracting their guilty pleas, one lawyer said: "They now say the guilty pleas were not voluntary."

During Mr Anwar's appearance yesterday — as the court heard legal argument on whether the prisoner would be allowed to describe what had happened to him in jail, Mr Anwar caught the eye of one of the handful of Western journalists who had managed to squeeze past the police and get into the court. The reporter pointed to his own eye, and gestured: "Why the black eye?" Mr Anwar replied by making as if to punch his own face.

Finally the accused, who also held the post of finance minister until Mr Mahathir sacked him on September 2, was allowed to speak.

He had been handcuffed and blindfolded in the cells, he said. "I was boxed very hard on the left temple and the right part of my head. I was hit very hard on the left part of my neck. I was then slapped very hard, left and right, until blood seeped down my nose and my lips."

Then, he said, he had collapsed and passed out. The beating took place on the night of his arrest, the evening that the Queen and the Foreign Secretary, Robin Cook, were visiting the end of the Commonwealth Games in Kuala Lumpur with Dr Mahathir.

"The next morning," Mr Anwar continued, "there was a big swelling on my eye. I could not open it. It affected the vision of my left eye. I requested to see a doctor for five days. For five days my request was not entertained."

Mr Anwar took off his glasses to show his black eye to the judge. "Look at the condition of my eye after 10 days," he said. "You can imagine why they refused to let a doctor see me earlier."

Mr Anwar said before his arrest that he did not want the Queen or the Foreign Secretary to be embroiled in Malaysian politics. But his supporters accuse both of cowardice for making no public intervention on Mr Anwar's behalf when they were in Malaysia.

Dr Mahathir said last night that his former friend and supposed heir would remain in jail. "If he is freed, he will continue to incite. He will do anything to hide his wrongdoings."

If Mr Anwar is found guilty of the offence of "unnatural sex" he faces up to 20 years in jail and a possible whipping.

He is being held under the draconian Internal Security Act, which allows prisoners to be held for 60 days without seeing a lawyer. The detention can be periodically extended, and may last for years.

Two of Mr Anwar's daughters wept when they saw their father in court. His wife, Azizah Ismail, the mother of six, was also there.

Later she said she was "shocked and stunned that my husband had been a victim of police brutality".

Referring to the Malaysian press's submission to the regime, she said: "I hope it [the allegation of police abuse] appears in the local press — joke, joke, joke."

She went on to appeal to Malaysians: "Open your eyes, open your hearts. Is it too much to ask? Open your eyes."

# Researchers' bonanza as 60,000 pages of JFK evidence go public

**Julian Borger in Washington**

**T**HE huge conspiracy industry centred on the 1963 assassination of President John Kennedy will get a sizeable boost today when several tons of new evidence are released, including autopsy notes and new forensic tests — even the floor tiles from the hospital room where JFK died.

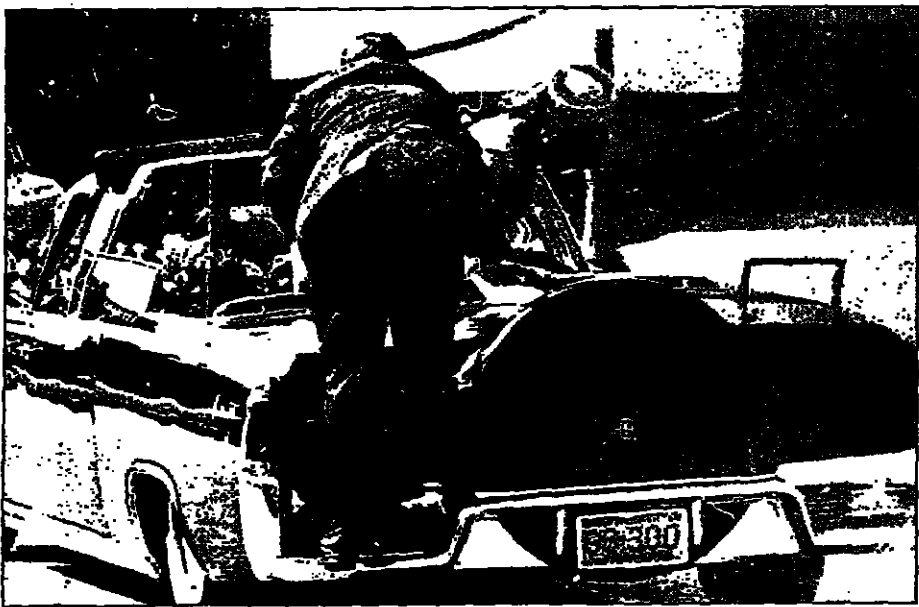
The release coincides with the winding up of the Assassination Records Review Board, set up six years ago by Congress to gather all the evidence and make it available so that a sceptical American public could make up its own mind on one of the tenacious mysteries of modern times.

Historians, journalists and freelance conspiracy theorists will be free to burrow into 60,000 pages of newly declassified documents. They will be able to view the original notes from Dallas police and FBI interrogations of Lee Harvey Oswald, as well as statements from the doctors who carried out the autopsy.

The board has spent \$8 million (\$4.7 million) sifting through an estimated 4 million pages of assassination material. It has custody of several pieces of physical evidence, including the entire contents of the Parkland Memorial hospital emergency room where JFK died, down to the floor and ceiling tiles.

The Kennedy autopsy has long been a focus for investigators because of the leading role played by secret servicemen and the subsequent disappearance of the president's brain. Last month the review board ordered the FBI to carry out new forensic tests on a bullet found in the seat of the presidential limousine. The conspiracy theorists believe the tests will prove that three bullets, not three, were fired, suggesting at least two gunmen were involved.

They may also identify the mysterious "fibrous-plant debris" embedded in the bullet fragment, which may indicate what direction it was fired from. The test results are believed to be in-



President Kennedy's presidential car immediately after the shot was fired on 22 November 1963

cluded in the new documents. The board was not asked to make judgments on who carried out the killing. But its members insist that there is no startling new evidence to challenge the official orthodoxy that Oswald was a lone assassin.

James Lesar, director of the Independent Assassination Archives and Research Centre, said: "For those who had hoped that the releases will quell the controversy, I don't think that that will happen. We have an unsolved assassination of a president of the United States that is not being investigated."

In its 236-page report, the board said the official record of the assassination "remained shrouded in secrecy and mystery" for decades. The report, due to be handed to President Clinton today, says: "Thirty years of government secrecy [has] led the American public to believe that the government had something to hide."

The controversy was fuelled by the general release of the film of the assassination made by a bystander, Abraham Zapruder. It appeared to confirm claims that Kennedy had been shot from the front, suggesting that an unidentified gunman had opened fire in front of him.

# Iraqis leave West foxed

**Ian Black Diplomatic Editor**

**H**OPES for an early end to the dangerous impasse between Iraq and the United Nations have been dashed and signs that the US and Britain are floundering over their next moves.

Kofi Annan, the UN secretary-general, is to hold a second crisis meeting with the Iraqi deputy prime minister, Tariq Aziz, later this week, after failing to persuade him to lift Baghdad's ban on international weapons inspections, diplomats said last night.

Mr Aziz told the UN chief late on Monday that the ban would stay until he heard details of a promised "comprehensive review" of UN policy towards Iraq.

But Security Council members admit they cannot agree on what the review should consist of.

Iraq wants the review to recognise progress over seven years in dismantling its weapons of mass destruction, and to start the process of lifting the sanctions which

the UN imposed to punish Baghdad for the Gulf war that began with its invasion of Kuwait in 1990.

British officials have spoken of offering a "virtual carrot" to coax Iraq back into co-operation with the UN special commission, Unscocm, charged with finding and destroying Saddam Hussein's nuclear, chemical and biological arsenal.

All five permanent members of the Security Council insist that Baghdad must blink first, but with the US and Britain failing to persuade him to lift Baghdad's ban on international weapons inspections, diplomats said last night.

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But Security Council members admit they cannot agree on what the review should consist of.

Iraq wants the review to recognise progress over seven years in dismantling its weapons of mass destruction, and to start the process of lifting the sanctions which

the Security Council, while the US and Britain take a harder line. But diplomats say London is becoming frustrated with Washington's unyielding position, urging that inspections on nuclear arms be put on a less stringent basis.

And Unscocm faced further controversy last night after new revelations about the extent of Israel's help in tracking down Iraqi arms.

The Washington Post reported that Israeli intelligence had provided information about the movement and concealment of forbidden materials and told inspectors that 40 tons of a biological growth medium sold to Iraq by a British company were unaccounted for.

Israel and Unscocm have been treating their co-operation as highly secret, fearing it would feed Iraqi propaganda about a Zionist conspiracy behind the commission's work.

The sense of a UN system at odds with itself was heightened when the head of UN humanitarian programmes in Iraq — who steps down today after announcing his resignation in July — said yesterday he was leaving because he did

not want to be associated with the adverse impact of sanctions.

"The fact that we in the UN have been obliged to sustain ... the sanctions regime, for me is a very unfortunate and uncomfortable situation," Dennis Halliday told a Baghdad news conference. "We are all familiar with children dying of leukaemia and [the imports programme] has not been able to provide those sophisticated long-term drugs," he said.

The UN oversees distribution of food and other humanitarian goods that Iraq purchases with money from limited, UN-approved oil sales.

A senior official in Iraq's health ministry claimed yesterday that at least 1.5 million people, mostly young children, have died because of the sanctions.

Shawky Marcus, under secretary-general, said that sometimes hospitals would get access to everything they needed for an operation, except anaesthetics. Or contracts for anaesthetics would be approved but those for scissors, or artery forceps, or monitoring machines, would be blocked by the committee.

# Thousands of Albanian children in hiding to escape blood feuds

**Owen Bowcott in Shkoder**

**G**JIN Mekshi is a school teacher and a man of "good reputation" in his flat is decorated with lions of the Virgin Mary. His calling involves reconciling vendettas and blood feuds.

In a cramped fifth floor flat looking out on Albania's semi-lawless northern mountains, he deplores the spread of violence and the lack of respect for traditional codes of behaviour.

As a leading member of the Shkoder-based Committee for Blood Reconciliation, he works within a moral framework devised by a tribal chieftain excommunicated for his "most un-Christian code". The 15th

century *kanun* (code) of Lek Dukagjini, which regulates revenge killings to preserve the honour of the clan, or *fis*, has been revived in northern Albania since the demise of communism. Up to 6,000 children are said to be in hiding from blood feuds.

But the code's harsh justice is no longer being respected. "The *kanun* is a good way for resolving arguments, but not in the way most people interpret it as always ending in killings," Mr Mekshi explains.

"The code doesn't allow women to be killed, but there have been cases in Tropoje [on the Kosovo border] this year where women have been forced into hiding by death threats."

Modern reproductions of the *kanun* are on sale in the

Tirana's kiosks. Its author is thought to be Lek Dukagjini, Lord of Dagmo and Zadrima, who fought the Turks until 1472, then fled to Italy. His intention was to limit the cycles of blood-letting among the mountain tribes which sometimes destroyed entire communities.

Enver Hoxha's regime suppressed it. But the privatisation of land, which reopened ancient disputes, and the breakdown of law and order last year, when Albania's armories were looted, have encouraged direct retribution.

"Since the committee was set up in 1991 we have resolved 365 cases in Albania and 38 abroad," Mr Mekshi records. "One feud has been running for more than 60 years."

"Sometimes the vendettas start through killings or land disputes but they also begin with a fight over a drink or a car accident. Usually it's a killing for a killing, a beating for a beating. The *kanun* doesn't specify how killings should be carried out, but if you mutilate a victim's face, attack him from behind or kill him after you gave your word not to, the bad blood comes back to you."

"Within the first 24 hours you may kill anyone from the clan to which the person who carried out the initial killing belonged — but not a woman."

"After that you can kill a member of the family. After a year, it must be only the murderer or whoever lives in his house."





# Comment

## Diary

Matthew Norman

**I**N the wake of New Labour's little embarrassment over dear old Dolly Draper, ministers of the Crown have distanced themselves, with incredible eagerness, from any invitation offered by a lobbying company. All ministers, it appears, but one. I am intrigued to come into a memo from a certain Patsy Baker, who works for my noble friend Lord Tim Bell's lobbyist, Lord Pottenger, concerning a meal planned for last night in Blackpool.

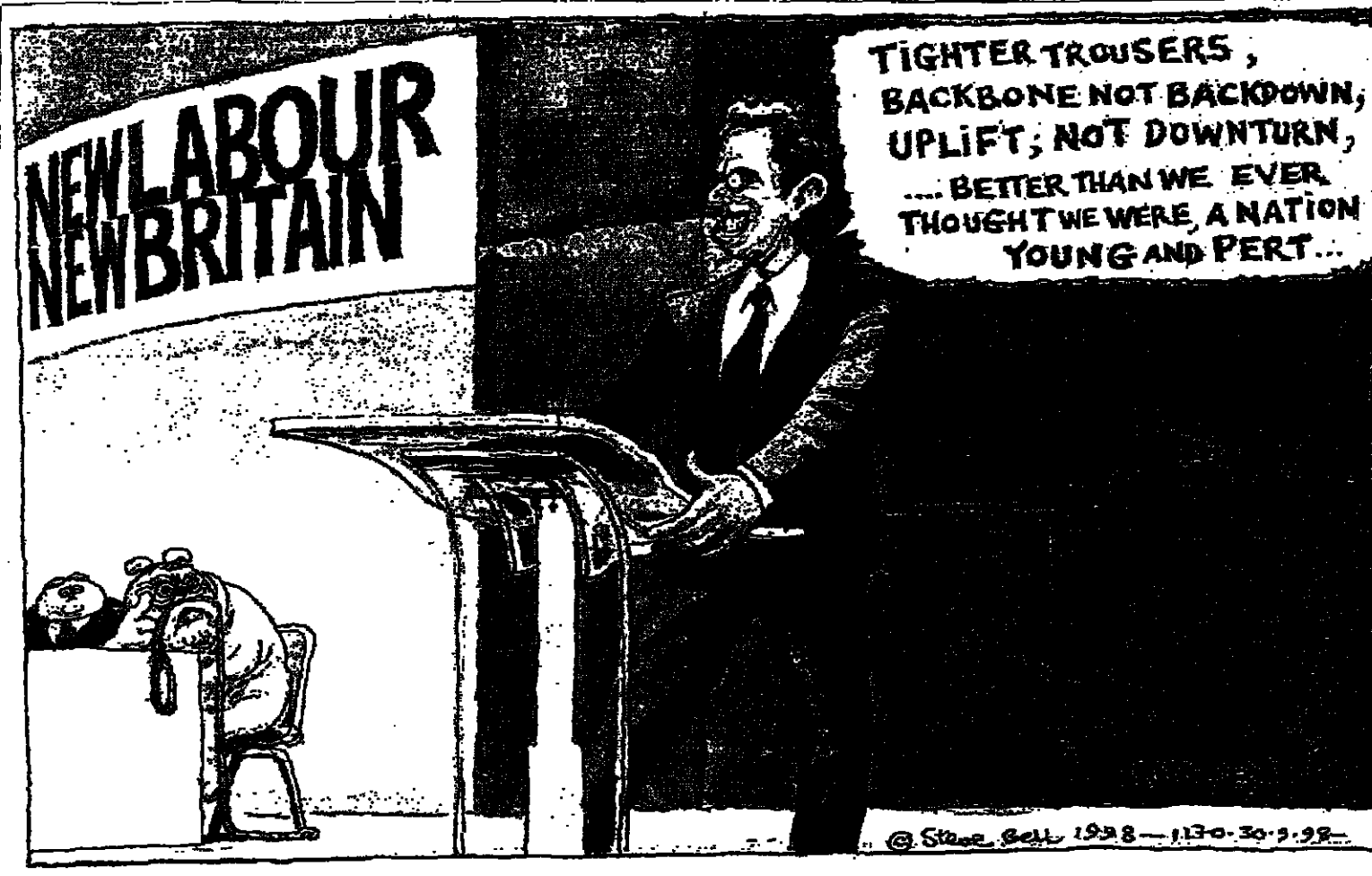
"Following on from yesterday's telephone conversation," it reads, "listed below are the guests I would envisage inviting to the dinner." Among this impressive roster are bosses from companies with as little to lobby the Government about as BSA's (Mark Booth), Railtrack (Sir Bob Horton) and Eurotunnel (Robert Malpas). "I would like to go ahead and start inviting people," writes Patsy. "If he would like us to include anyone in particular who is not on the list..." The "he" in question is Jack Cunningham. What the point to Jack might be, we have made no progress in discovering; but bless his heart, he is at least a law unto himself.

**A**T Canary Wharf, celebrations erupt at news of a reprieve. Staff of the Daily Telegraph were threatened with expulsion from the Living Well health club — the place where editor Charles "Atlas" Moore does his lengths of the pool and, it is rumoured, some weight training — because of overcrowding. Desperate protests were made, however, and finally the gym's owner, David Sussman, succumbed. "We're thrilled to pieces," says a source. "When Atlas does his weights, all the secretaries and girl reporters rush over to watch. We call it the 11.30, because it's just like that Diet Coke diet when they all oggle the gorgeous construction worker."

**T**HE Tefal Vitessé kettle (apocryphal with splash of terracotta: £27.99), which was confiscated by our electricians for testing last week, has now returned. However, questions over the thinking behind the dementedly short electrical lead persists. Stephen Luttman wrote from Faversham on Monday's letters page to point out that all electric kettles have short leads. "With up to two kilowatts of power," he explains, "and at 240 volts by 13 amps, it is unwise to approach a cold tap with a plugged-in kettle. The tap will perform as a perfect earth, and the chances of electrocution for the person holding both tap and kettle are high." Thanks, Mr Luttman, but you haven't seen the Vitessé. The lead is astonishingly short.

**A**MONG many touching moments in Blackpool this week, second only perhaps to warmth of the conference reception lavished upon Mandy Mandelson was the sight of two old friends reunited. Paul Routledge may be the Mirror's Mr Angry, but in the company of Rosie Rix, who, the wild but winsome warlord of weed, became a purring pussy-cat. Eyes in the media centre welled with tears (it is said that Trevor Kavanagh of the Sun was so overcome, and had to be led away, and forced to feed tea) as the two chatted happily for 10 minutes... and this only a few months after Rosie withdrew the offer of the Express political editor's job when New Labour High Command disapproved. "We're very old mates," Rosie tells me. "I love Paul." Asahhh! who shall say that friendship counts for nought in the ruthless world of national newspapers?

**A**N arsonist strikes the Central London County Court in Regent's Park. He is Mr Recorder Wicks, who on Monday set his chambers alight when a discarded bag end found the carpet. All seven courts were evacuated for two hours, and although no structural damage is reported, there is, according to a spokeswoman, an awful lot of soot: his room is now said to be black. As for the judge himself, when safely removed from the blaze, he was seen on the pavement lighting a second cigarette. Probably the safest place for him.



## What a swell party this is. But not all of us seem to have an invitation

Jonathan Freedland



**T**HERE'S been a brisker trade than usual at the Co-op stand in Blackpool. It slowed a little yesterday afternoon, as delegates deserted the trade fair area to hear Tony Blair, but until then Co-op staff were rushed off their feet. Their "customers" were Labourites anxious to swap their now-notorious "dog-tags" — the compulsory, credential-holding necklaces sponsored by Somerville supermarkets — for a no-name metal chain provided, free of charge, by the Co-op. Demand was so great they cleared 500 in two hours, eventually sending for extra supplies from Co-op stores around the north-west. "I don't want to be a walking advert for anybody," said one delegate, happy to model the new version.

The Labour activists gathered in Blackpool have not staged the showdown with the party high command some had predicted. On the contrary, they gave a sustained ovation to Tony Blair yesterday afternoon. But they have mounted their own little rebellions, quiet protests which say much about the state of Labour — and serve as an early warning to the Government as to what trouble may lie ahead.

Besides the underground trade in Co-op tags, the most obvious act of defiance came on Sunday — with the election of four candidates of the left-leaning Grassroots Alliance to Labour's National Executive Committee. Millbank didn't want them, but the members voted for them anyway.

They've carried on making trouble. After thin applause for Peter Mandelson, delegates broke into a 45-second ovation for Derek Hodgson — the trade unionist who dared follow the trade secretary with both an implicit attack on him and a plea to keep the Post Office out of private hands. On Monday delegate Brenda Hilditch launched her own little rocket of subversion. At the microphone, she asked: "Can you hear me, comrades?" The Empress Ballroom rang with cheers.

What does all this amount to? Is it proof of a resurgence of Old Labour — with the Co-op, the trade unions and "comrades" preferred over Somerville, big business and "colleagues"? No, it's not as obvious as that. It's vaguer, less ideological.

For most of the rebel tag-swappers and secret comrades actually agree with much of the New Labour project. They can see the logic in the Third Way spelled out in the leader's speech, they accept that short-term economic pain is essential for long-term gain, and they celebrate the formidable record the Blair Government has already notched up — detailed once more yesterday. They know all that in their head. But they can't quite feel it in their hearts.

The Prime Minister may have unwittingly put his finger on the matter in his jacket-off Q & A session on Sunday. "You're not the Government's audience," he said. "You're part of the show." But that might be exactly the problem. Too many Labour folk seem to feel precisely like spectators. As it happens, they quite like the show, but few of them believe they have much say over the script. As one loyal Blairite minister ad-

mits of his own constituents: "They don't feel it's their party anymore."

Hence the nostalgia for those symbols of Old Labour, reminders of the time when Labour — for all its rough, untempered edges — felt like it belonged to them, rather than the sleekly-competent board of management in charge today.

It's not just the Rubik cube stage-set and the McKinsey-style workshops. It is that some of the basic features of the Labour landscape have now vanished — starting with the leader. Tony Blair is hugely admired by Labourites, but they do not feel he is of them in the way that John Smith or Neil Kinnock so demonstrably were. The explanations of this are complex, with class somewhere at the heart of it. But the very grammar of Tony Blair's speeches conveys a sense of outsider-ness, as if the Labour party were a force to which the leader retains only a distant connection. (The Labour of the past is rarely described as "we".)

**B**UT activists have none of the usual places to turn. They cannot look to leaders-in-waiting, nor to a favoured, normally a Labourite, political parties. Gordon Brown is more a partner (and rival) in power than a rising star of the future. Besides him, where is the talent? Peter Mandelson is famed for his skills, yet delivered a leaden speech. Alastair Darling gets good ink, yet was unable to break out of a deathly monotone on Monday afternoon. Conferences past could lay up Denis Healey, Barbara Castle and Tony Benn in a single afternoon. Now, after Blair and Brown, there is almost no one. Blairite pin-ups like Stephen Byers and Alan Michael have emerged as cold-dish technocrats, unable to connect with the flesh-and-blood of the conference. Only one minister has done that, and she must now be the front-runner to succeed Blair in any under-a-bus scenario. Proof of it came yesterday, when delegates interrupted the Blair address to give Mo Mowlam a sustained, and genuine, ovation.

Nor is there a big ideas person, someone (outside Blair-Brown) to do for Labour now what Tony Crosland did for Labour then. Nor, come to think of it, is there a big idea. One fringe meeting on the subject ran into the sand within minutes, deteriorating into Third Way blather and a wildly off-the-point ramble around Islam. Nor, yet, is there a serious challenger — a Benn figure around which dissent can crystallise. Lis Davies doesn't quite make the cut.

The result is a Labour membership which is disoriented, "restless" according to one minister. Perhaps it won't matter. Maybe Tony Blair has proved that parties can be bypassed, that a leader can talk to the nation directly. But Labour does, like the man says, face a "year of challenge". There are elections across the UK and in Europe in 1999, and that will require activists with enthusiasm. At the moment they know New Labour makes sense, but they don't yet feel it. Their head may say Somerset, but their heart still says Co-op.

Blair stormed them on Clause Four. He can do it again on PR

## The leader ponders

Polly Toynbee



**A**N AURA of mystery surrounds any good leader. Everyone guesses but no one knows the deepest recesses of his mind. These are not things revealed in his great annual set-piece speech. So fevered speculation about his inner thoughts continues, nowhere more than on the most contentious issue unexpectedly blown into this week's conference — proportional representation.

Tomorrow party members, backed by union block votes, have secured a debate designed to reject next month's report of the Jenkins Commission — whatever it says. A vigorous campaign to keep first-past-the-post voting has sprung up to resist all change. There's no doubting the mood of the party. But where stands the leader?

Highly placed well-informed sources will tell you — usually with glee because that's what they hope is the truth — that PR is a dead duck. Blair has dropped it, ditched Jenkins, stabbed Paddy in the back, and is now so triumphantly secure in power for the foreseeable future that he no longer thinks a system that elected him is all that bad. Maybe. But it doesn't sound wholly in character, does it? Even those who make jokes about plumb-ing the shallows of his political ideology might concede that no amount of spin can make that sound like the promise-keeper he says he is.

Others with close access to the leader's mind say he's playing a long game — and why not? He has always had his eye on the far horizon, always many leaps ahead of his party, a salmon he plays on long line. He has a vision of transforming Britain profoundly with radical institutional reform, much of it already happening with astonishing speed in Scotland, Wales, Northern Ireland and the European elections. If it, then, the end of reform, bar removing the absurdities of the hereditary peerage? Is that the limit of his reforming zeal, after just 18 months? Unlikely. He has a dream — of course he does — and it is of a stable social-democratic future, governed with the consent of the majority, where extremists like Mrs Thatcher can never again seize power to distort and disfigure the political landscape with only minority backing. "Inclusive" is his word. Our political system now is profoundly exclusive — excluding the quarter of people who refused to vote last time, excluding those who want to vote anti-Blairite Labour or pro-European Tory. PR would include the poor, making their votes count for the first time. Instead of mounting up in useless heaps where no one need bother with them, lost in the rush for a handful of swing votes in middle England, they would be counted.

How and when he achieves that goal he may not have decided. He certainly isn't about to play his hand before he's ready, and that is not at this year's conference, jumped into it by opponents of change in a last-minute debate tomorrow. Watch and see the division quietly resolve itself when Blair decides the time is right.

**T**HERE has to be a referendum, because it's promised. The agreed form of PR to be voted on may be the crudest, most minimal, but it's more proportional than now. (Those who want a purer form should remember it can be modified at some future date, as other countries have done). But a referendum unsupported by the Prime Minister is politically impossible. That means the cabinet will be in line and on message, whatever it is. That might not be late next year, as expected, perhaps not until 2001 or 2002, but as implied, it will be before the next election.

The hostility of party activists is hardly surprising. (Ordinary party members may be a different story.) Blackpool's band of foot-soldiers is by nature odd: politics is a rum hobby indulged by very few. They have pounded pavements and calculated fine odds for too long under this system to give it up lightly. PR risks removing yet more of their power to select candidates — though a top-up list adding proportional extra members can be drawn up by one-member-one-member-one-vote, and not by the central party apparatus.

The hostility of MPs is even less surprising. Change threatens many of their jobs. There is alarm among some of the old parliamentarians that delaying the referendum will make managing MPs' opposition a great deal harder. Now is the time when all kinds of alternative jobs and openings are available in the new assemblies, a new House of Lords or in London government — jobs that will be well gone by 2002. Easing their quiet exit then will be a lot more difficult.

Delay is dangerous. The Liberal Democrats fear the steam escaping from the mission to reform. Events may overtake the Lib Dems as not shouting betrayal, no knives in their backs, they are holding steady — but they rightly worry whether Blair will always have this super-control. Better by far to charge forward while he holds all the reins so firmly — on with Freedom of Information, House of Lords reform, seize the day, for he who hesitates is lost.

The spectacle of the new First Past The Post campaign was a dismal sight. There were Dennis Skinner and

John Speller from the opposite ends of this great coalition of theirs, united only in denouncing coalitions. Coalitions fixed by us, so we can actually express whether our vote is for one extreme wing or the other, are apparently not. Derek Fatchett was one government minister among those spewing out a visceral, tribal loathing of Liberals. That's how far Blair has to drag his party into looking ahead to a secure broader social-democratic future. His people seem to have air-brushed out those 18 years as if they never happened — four elections lost — but it's a wonderful system. The chance PR would give the Tories to split would presumably not interest this old guard at all. Diversity, pluralism, choice, inclusion — are not words they know — only narrow party activism. Well, Blair stormed them on Clause Four, and he can do it again, no doubt with equal relief, on PR. Indeed the tone of his passage on PR yesterday suggested it — yes, a token rebuke to the Lib Dems, more fatherly head-shake than knee in the groin — followed in the next breath by a commitment to give power back to the people. Listen to how the First Past The Posters sound, and you might guess where Blair stands. But expect no sign, omen or word until after Jenkins reports — and probably not then for a while.



PR would include the poor, making their votes count for the first time

Milosevic tells me no one is left living in the open in Kosovo. I tell him his officials are lying

## We must use force

Paddy Ashdown

**T**HE WOMAN is using a branch as a broom to sweep away the leaves from the front of her shelter. She carefully arranges the muddy threadbare shoes of her family, left at the entrance, in accordance with Albanian custom.

Inside the air is fetid and damp. Last night it rained, soaking them all and turning the ground to a muddy mess. She and her extended family of 15 have lived here under a plastic sheet since they fled from their villages under Serb shells 10 weeks ago. There are 700 people in this wooded valley, the entire population of just one of the hundreds of burnt-out villages which are now scattered across central and western Kosovo. Their shelters are camouflaged with branches so that they stay hidden from the Serbs. It was merely by chance that they were discovered by a sharp-eyed UNHCR official two days ago. Until then they had stayed hidden, too frightened to emerge, living off wild peaches, raw berries and

whatever they could gather from the forest. Almost no one has a decent pair of shoes and many of the children are barefoot and showing the early signs of malnutrition. Chest diseases are already beginning to carry off the elderly.

I ask one man what they will do when the fierce Kosovo winter comes. "We will die where we are, rather than return to our villages if the Serbs are still there. And anyway, what is the point? They have looted and burnt our houses; they have killed our cattle and destroyed our stocks of grain."

No one knows how many camps like this there are still in the forests, undiscovered.

Next day President Milosevic tells me no one is left living in the open. I tell him his officials are lying to him. Aid workers say that there are 100,000 Albanians still living in the open, and that 25,000 lives are in jeopardy over the winter if things stay as they are.

I ask one of the children to tell me what happened when the Serbs came. I know what she is going to say before she says it because I have seen it

for myself in these past few days. First comes the ultimatum, delivered by the Serb police. "Give up your weapons or we will destroy your village."

After the deadline comes the shelling. Heavy artillery and 120-millimetre mortars and heavy-calibre machine guns and T65 tanks. The weapons of total war, against defenceless villages. One after the other, I watched them.

Next come the soldier looting for myself in these past few days. First comes the ultimatum, delivered by the Serb police. "Give up your weapons or we will destroy your village."

I counted 17 villages in flames and countless farmhouses

the Yugoslav government had assured the world that it had stopped. I counted 17 villages in flames and countless individual farmhouses.

I spoke to the terrified human flotilla of this medieval barbarism. Cartloads of women and children being driven from place to place by the shelling and the soldiers under the relentless rain. One grandmother holding her five-month-old grandchild and comforting her nine-months-pregnant daughter, as yet another deadline approached. She told me they had been on the move for four nights. Where should they go to now? No doubt they will join the thousands hidden in wooded valleys where the Serb authorities say they don't exist.

An old woman I met in another burnt-out village tells me she had finally dared to come back to her burnt-out house, but only during the day. Three of her friends tried to stay the night, but were found with their throats cut in the morning. In another village an old man tells me that when they returned, they found a body burnt beyond recognition, decapitated, and

with its arms and legs cut off in one of the ashes of one house. "It's their calling card," he says.

What should we do? First we have to be prepared to use force to stop this, if it continues. Air power is the only option and I remain convinced it is a viable one. Second, we must insist on free, urgent and unfettered access to refugees wherever they are. Third, the West must come up with its own solution. We cannot wait for the opposing parties to come up with theirs. It should be based around a transitional period for Kosovo leading to large-scale autonomy, with independence as an option in the long term.

Lastly, we must understand that Kosovo is a regional problem that requires a regional solution. Kosovo is, more dangerously even than Bosnia, the unstable detonator of the wider Balkan conflict that we all fear for so long.

Like the villages of western Kosovo, the fuse is burning. It will require urgent and decisive action to put it out.

Paddy Ashdown MP is leader of the Liberal Democrat Party

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## Who wants fairies at the bottom of their garden when they can have Charlie?

Phyllis Pyke, Letters

## Blair in harmony

A new politics of values

"CAMPAIGN in poetry, govern in prose" — Mario Cuomo. The president who never was because he couldn't make up his mind might be thought an unlikely well of political philosophy for a Blair conference speech, but the words were apt. Rhetoric and ideology are fine for opposition: government is different. Government is about tough choices, risking unpopularity and taking on powerful and entrenched interests. It's time to grow up and share responsibility for the challenges ahead — "backbone, not back down". That was the lecture. As one MP of mature years wistfully remarked: "In the old days, the conference used to harangue the platform. Now the platform harangues the conference."

Mr Blair's speech was much less of a lecture than in the recent past. This was a nuanced performance: firm, but less hectoring than when he was frustrated by his party's resistance to change. Yesterday the prime minister was relaxed, confident and persuasive. He was better on inclusion than on exclusion; better on policing by crack-down than policing by consent. But his chiding of business, teachers and doubters within his own party was gentle stuff. His slap-down of the Lib Dems over PR was almost playful. Only the Scottish Nationalists were treated with genuine scorn — independence was "narrow chauvinism masquerading as idealism: wrong in principle. It is the wrong values."

The choice of words was significant.

Those who go in search of the Big Idea behind the Third Way may be heading down a blind alley, for Mr Blair is much less interested in idealism — or even ideas — than in values. Those looking for theoretical flesh to be put on the skeleton of Third Way policy-making will have found it yesterday in the language of values, clustered around what Anthony Giddens has called the "common morality of citizenship". It is about the power of the community, about "us, not me", about responsibilities as much as rights. But, lest that be too poetical, Mr Blair demonstrated how that value system can marry with the prose of government.

The context of that government was one in which unprecedented technological changes were allied to the awesome power of global capitalism — a world in which markets trade more in a day — \$1.3 trillion — than the global reserves of every government. Resistance to such forces was futile; a *laissez-faire* attitude was narrow and selfish. The Third Way — managing change — was the only response: "Accept the challenge of the future, but refuse to consider ourselves powerless to overcome it."

Some of the imminent challenges he highlighted were more prosaic than others. A war on car crime is not a huge step removed from a war on traffic cones. Paying inspired headteachers £70,000 a year is good, but, in isolation, somehow not an adequate indicator of progress towards reforming state education. There were no pointers to the urgent question of regulating the untrammelled global capitalism. There was little on foreign affairs. But Northern Ireland was rightly held up as an example of pro-independence government. There were promises of determined action on congestion charging, welfare reform and family policy (the last cleverly allied with an appeal to the media not to use this as a fig leaf to excuse

dredging through private lives of public figures). Firm details of progress on other fronts were lacking, but Mr Blair did succeed in fleshing out a new politics of values and in convincing his party that these were the same as those of the country. For the first time he seemed at peace with his party. The combination of leader and party in comparative harmony, coupled with an understanding of the requirements of government is formidable indeed.

## Kosovo ceasefire

But Milosevic sets the agenda

NATO last week warned Slobodan Milosevic he must cease military operations in Kosovo. This week the Serbs duly announced that those operations were over. A case of a successful display of Nato muscle? Hardly, and not only because operations are in fact still continuing. Milosevic's plan for the winter is becoming clearer. The Serbian forces have battered the Kosovo Liberation Army, uprooted a fifth of the Kosovo population and laid waste to at least 200 villages.

His next move will almost certainly be to half comply with the demand that operations end, while withdrawing only a few of his units, and prevaricating on negotiations with the Kosovans and on a ceasefire. At the same time he will offer to co-operate with the West in looking after the very people he has deliberately displaced. The likelihood is that every roof his forces have shelled to bits will be put back in place by Western governments and charities, and every acre of wheat his forces have burnt will be replaced by sacks of flour from the agencies. He destroys, we pay. This is already happening to some extent. Milosevic will accede to the request of organisations like the

UNHCR, whose head he recently received to allow a more comprehensive aid effort to get under way to rescue the endangered civilians now living on the hillsides. The result will be that these people, or some of them, will be spared the worst rigours of the winter. It will almost certainly also be to bring them back under Serbian control, because the agencies will have to work on Serbian sufferance.

If the Serbian leader plays his cards in this manner, he will have achieved three aims. The KLA has been badly damaged and probably reduced, at least for a while, to a level where what some will call terrorist operations are its only option, a fact which Milosevic will exploit. The Albanian population of Kosovo has been cowed, again at least for a while, and much of it thrust into a situation where survival will depend on returning to areas controlled by Serbian forces, albeit with some protection from humanitarian agencies. And the threat of Western military action has probably been averted, because Europe and America, whatever they say at Nato meetings, are deeply reluctant to put in the ground troops needed to truly protect the Kosovo Albanians from Serbian action. The fact that civilians, aid workers and Serbian forces will be intermingled on the ground will add to that reluctance. This is the sad prospect that seems to be unfolding in Kosovo.

## Fouling the ref

Make an example of Di Canio

TONY BANKS, the sports minister, is absolutely right to say that the Football Association should "throw the book" at Paolo Di Canio, the Sheffield Wednesday footballer who was sent off for pushing the referee to

the ground. The trouble is he didn't say which book. The FA's rule book, incredibly, allows for suspended players to continue to be paid their salaries after a maximum fine of only two weeks wages has been imposed. This is virtually an incentive to misbehave. Di Canio is said to have a short fuse though this may be an exaggeration. Ron Atkinson, who knows him, says that there is hardly any blue touch paper there at all. Di Canio didn't help his case by a brazen lack of contrition afterwards. He claimed he was being picked on for being a foreigner — forgetting that there are so many foreigners in some clubs that statistically speaking it is often difficult to pick on a Brit. The Italian even claimed that the ref "took a dive". He was charged with misconduct and given 14 days to defend himself.

Di Canio shouldn't be given kangaroo justice. He deserves a fair trial by the FA. But he will need an exceptionally good counsel to contradict the evidence seen on television by millions of people of a two-handed push on the referee. After being shown the red card he walked off filled with rage as if it had been nothing to do with him. The FA in future has almost unlimited powers to suspend or impose hefty fines. It is vital for the future of the game that a very strong signal is given. In recent years football, commendably, has become a more peaceful, family-orientated day out. But it is still marred by unacceptable behaviour on the field. And assaulting the referees is completely out of order. They are poorly paid. Sure, they sometimes make wrong decisions which are exposed by instant video replays that they themselves don't — yet — have access to. But that's not the point. The game can't function unless the ref's decision is final. If the FA gives anything less than an exemplary sentence it won't deserve to regulate the game at all.

## Letters to the Editor

### Boogie nights in Blackpool

ANYONE who harbours any doubts about the degradation of British politics should take a quick look at the corporate sponsor-fest formerly known as Labour Party conference. The sight of Chris Evans boogying with Cabinet ministers will surely stay with me for a long time. Can anyone explain what Evans was doing there? At least he can dance better than Mo Mowlam and John Prescott. But where were Chumbawamba when their country needed them? David Gordon. Co Down.

TWICE in two days I have heard delegates at the Labour conference use the phrase "joined-up thinking". Does this refer to collective ideas or an illegible scrawl? Robin Musker. Peterborough.

RE Denise Vickery's somewhat ungenerous attribution of the victory of the left in the NEC elections to yourselves. Your efforts surely would have been nothing without Neil Kinnock's wickedly ironic and timely intervention. Peter Smees. Norwich.

PERHAPS Herr Schröder should take a lesson from the fashion industry: red and green should not be seen except upon a fool. Nick Emmel. Leeds.

WHY do we persist in giving affectionate names to all these death-dealing weather phenomena (Gilbert, Georges, El Niño etc). Surely in view of their random and callous wreaking of havoc, terms like "El Bruto" or simply "Hurricane Bastard" would be appropriate? Ian Ratcliffe. London.

## PR gets alternative vote

SO Ken Livingstone (PM warning on electoral reform delay is problem for Ashdown, September 28) was committed to the German additional member system of PR, but is now "... happy to campaign against the form."

First, the Jenkins proposal, since through the party list it hands power to the leaders. Second, the Jenkins proposal, since through the party list it hands power to the leaders. Second, the Jenkins proposal, since through the party list it hands power to the leaders. Second, the Jenkins proposal, since through the party list it hands power to the leaders.

PERHAPS I might point out to Mr Livingstone that both AV-plus and AMS are hy-

brids, with both constituency seats and top-up list sections chosen by the parties, not voters. The only difference is that under AV-plus the voter casts a preferential vote (1,2,3 etc) and under AMS a plain X vote. Alex Folkes. Campaign officer, Electoral Reform Society, London.

YOUR leader (September 28) wants more democracy within parties, but ignores that the application of democracy always lags behind advancing technology. For committees, the only practicable method of PR is the transferable vote system (STV): if voters prioritise candidates by ideology, ethnic origin, sex or occupation etc, such groups will be represented in proportion, even if they are not organised. Even this needs updating. Voting can be simplified by allowing "delegated preferential voting": a voter may express only a first preference and request the addition of the other preferences expressed by that candidate. STV for parliaments is more controversial. The evi-

dence suggests that the prospects are remote, until after it is accepted for committees. Richard Benjamin. London.

IT IS a little odd to see Roy Hattersley opposing PR. Perhaps he is, September 28) on the grounds that it means "there will never be another Labour government". The government we have is arguably the result of the belief, born out of desperation, that only a significant move to the right could win power under the existing electoral system. Perhaps PR is our only hope of getting a government capable of putting into practice those policies which are dear to many left-leaning voters. Gill Chapman. Sheffield.

WOULD a system where one chamber is elected on a "first past the post" basis and the other by proportional representation be workable? Andrew Weatherall. Aberdeen.

## Support for Charlie's bosom

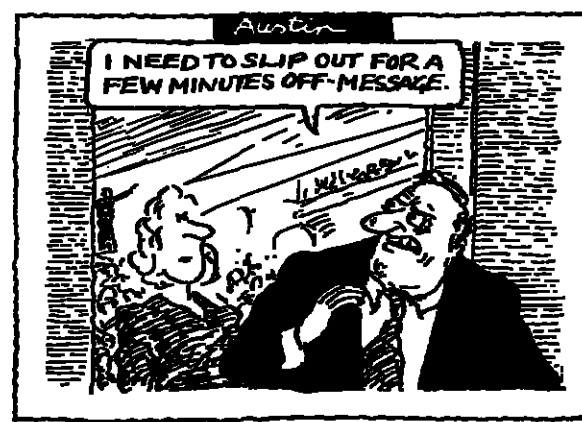
SO what's wrong with "bouncing" Charlie of BBC's Ground Force (Bloomberg, September 28)? No problems there (though she cut her hair a bit with all the bouncing down that she has to do, it would save her from having to push dirty hands through it). The cameraman is just showing viewers that the team's only woman is not allowed to touch an amount of work. So what's upsetting Sam Wollaston? In his agitated state he failed to note that the rustic arch hadn't been done. Stephen Dade. St Albans, Herts.

CHARLIE is one of the most naturally sexy females ever to appear on television. So why take issue with the cameraman? All right, so she put on a skimpy top that was usual, but the cameraman is right to let us enjoy her healthy physique engaged in real work. Much better Charlie on television than rumpole catwalk prima donnas. Tony & Theresa Vinkcombe. Hove, E Sussex.

BEING an old bloke of 87 still struggling with a small garden and an allotment, I get a great deal of enjoyment out of watching

Ground Force. If Charlie's bosom is adept at falling out of her skimpy top, don't blame the cameraman — that's his optimistic opportunism. A prudish word in Charlie's ear suggesting she wears a bra would not only spoil the cameraman's game, but also the programme for thousands of dirty old men who think Charlie is a really tough babe who deserves their admiration for her sheer guts as well as her physical assets. Phil Be. Cardiff.

WHO wants fairies at the bottom of their garden when they can have Charlie? Phyllis Pyke. Headcorn, Kent.



## Shakespeare scholar on song

I WAS bemused that your article on the new accession to the Shakespeare canon (All's well that ends well for ardent readers, September 28) refers to its discoverer, Eric Sams, as merely "a retired civil servant".

Mr Sams is a formidable scholar and penetrating critic, deeply versed in the 16th century and its music. His books on the songs of Shakespeare, Brahms and Wolf are in their field.

Moreover, he is one of the foremost musical cryptographers, adept at finding the words these composers encoded in tones, and this skill has doubtless aided him in detecting Shakespeare's hand throughout Edward III. Malcolm MacDonald. Stonehouse, Glos.

ALTHOUGH until now members of the Shakespeare establishment fiercely resisted his incursions into their territory, Dr Eric Sams is in fact a very distinguished scholar. The marriage of word and music has always been a passion with him; his ear for a line of poetry is as finely tuned as for a line of music. While it is true that computer checking has played an important part in substantiating many of his theories, it should be remembered that it was this incredibly accurate ear plus his profound knowledge of Shakespeare that initially started him on his long crusade to have the play Edward III accepted in the canon. Lesley Le Claire. Oxford.

## Poor Marx

WE WERE appalled by the description of Hitler's character and rise to power in Norman Stone's review of Ian Kershaw's book (Karl Marx in a brown shirt, Saturday Guardian, September 26).

The apparently sympathetic tone trivialises the criminality of Hitler and the Nazi regime — and Stone seems to embrace the alarming fashion which equates Marxism with Nazi ideology: a critique of man's exploitation of man with psychopathic rantings asserting the supremacy of the Nordic race. Ganna & Arthur Williams. Midlane & Alex Dubinsky. London.

arrested the Jamaican woman and the burglar ran off. If only it was that easy on A Question of Sport. Many of those at Blackpool are aware of the explanation for incidents like this, which is why they cheered their leader when he expressed outrage at the murderers of Stephen Lawrence, remaining free. Yet none have questioned the wisdom of sending the same institution which allowed that to happen into council estates with an instruction of "zero tolerance". Most of them cheered Blair not because they believe in him, but because they want to believe. So they pick up a few vague comments about opportunity and convince themselves he's still on their side. Next year they'll say: "He may have put Murdoch in the Cabinet, but at least he made a powerful statement against homelessness by finishing with Don't Sleep in the Subway, Darling."

## Brickbats for BBC over world music and World Service

I'VE been talking with a good many angry customers from all over the UK who come to me to buy what they hear on Andy Kershaw's show (Roots of Neglect, Media, September 28). For many of them, like myself — 38 plus, working, with kids — staying up until 2am to hear his show is not possible. So why not move him to Radio 2 where he could find a slot which runs at a more reasonable hour? Dave Atkin. Stems African Records, London.

NOT only is Radio 1's Andy Kershaw a great populariser but the fate of his programme is linked to the fortunes of World music itself. It's shocking to learn his superiors at Radio 1 would rather snipe than lend support. The story is symptomatic. Humph is down to an hour; R4 is awash with inanity; and R3 is more unlistenable now than when Zemlinsky ruled the

morning air-waves. Seriously, I despair of the BBC. Mike Butler. Manchester.

ONCE again it is left to John Tusa (Birt's blunder, September 26) to sound the alarm about the BBC's treatment of its own enormously influential World Service. I was Tusa's deputy in the late eighties and Austin Kark's before that. I have long argued that World Service should report not to the Foreign and Commonwealth Office but to an all-party parliamentary group, probably the Commons' Foreign Affairs Select Committee. Such a body would ensure the maintenance of full editorial independence was assured and that the BBC's senior management and board of governors respected the service's traditions and valued its impact and reputation. Christopher Bell. Chorleywood, Herts.

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## Opportunity knocks

### Mark Steel

THAT'S not a conference. That's just a week-long version of those tribute programmes for people like Max Bygraves or Thora Hird that they sometimes have on Sunday nights on ITV. By next year the process will be complete. Delegates will just say: "Can I add my own personal thanks to the Prime Minister for all the pleasure he's given me over the years."

Those of us lucky enough to have worked closely with him, know he's just as charming off stage as on. The chair will be Terry Wogan, and he'll announce that the next speaker is Anthony Hopkins, who unfortunately can't be with us because of filming commitments, but has sent this taped message from Hollywood. "Hi Tone," he'll begin. "Sorry I can't be with you on your special day, but all the best and may you keep making those tough choices for many, many years. Lots of love to a lamb who no one could keep silent."

Terry will lead the laughter, then at the end, instead of the Red Flag, Blair will do a duet with Petula Clark. I watched about half an hour in one go, and had to stop as I was getting mesmerised, like when you stare too long at one of those squiggly drawings. Another 10 minutes and I'd have been like the characters in old science

fiction films who get taken over by aliens, wandering out to strangers saying: "The third-way-is-the-only-way."

So it's no wonder that after three days the whole place erupted into adulation for a leader's speech which ended by telling us he wanted opportunity for all, and his children to grow up being proud of their country. Were those delegates really inspired by that? If they were, they must have been worried beforehand that he'd say: "Together we can build a new Britain, with opportunity for just a handful of people, so that my children grow up thoroughly ashamed of living in a shit-hole."

One day some of those delegates may come round and, like someone recovering from years in a religious cult, wonder how they ever fell for potty ideas like zero tolerance to cut car crime. I know Michael Howard seems a long time ago, but I'm sure his policy wasn't to be intolerant to

criminals except for car thieves. Blair and Straw seem to think this policy is a new daring approach, like that of hard TV cops. Maybe they imagine a film being made where they're called into the office and told: "I've had the D.A. on my back again over you two about your lack of tolerance. I'm telling ya, we've got to play by the book."

WITH them replying: "And where's the book ever got us. Sir? All we know is there's decent folk out there who've been without car radios for too long. When we signed up to this force, we thought we were signing up to put that right and that's what we're gonna do whether we have to bust some ass or not. When it comes to scam breaking, windscreeners, Sir, I'm afraid tolerance just isn't in our dictionary."

It's not that council-estate



Casper Wrede

# Northern light for the theatre



Wrede... influencing writers, actors, directors, designers

FIRST met the director Casper Wrede, who has died aged 68, in 1968. Together with Michael Elliott and James Maxwell — both now also dead — he founded in London the 69 Theatre Company at the Lyric Theatre, Hammersmith. It was devoted mostly to plays from the European repertoire. That season he directed Maxwell's translation of *Don Quixote*. Strindberg's *Creditors* with Mal Zetterling and the premiere of Alun Owen's *Rough and Ready Lot*. But the chief contribution of the season was that it laid the foundations of a great theatre. Out of the 69 Theatre Company had come, in 1968, the 69 Theatre Company, and at the Edinburgh Festival that year he directed its first production, *Hamlet*, with Tom Courtenay.

That year the company moved into Manchester University's theatre. Casper directed *A Man For All Seasons* and my play *Country Matters*. Of its 21 productions there seven transferred to London. Four years later it leased Manchester's old Royal Exchange — the Victorian centre for cotton trading — creating what became Manchester's Royal Exchange

Theatre Company, famed and respected throughout the world.

This was Casper's greatest concrete achievement in the theatre. He was not only a driving force but also the chief arbiter of the fundamental and ethical principles that underpinned the enterprise.

Casper exerted an often crucial influence on a great many people, most especially writers, actors, directors and designers. He aspired to the highest standards of artistic endeavour and, by force of personality, encouraged those in his circle to follow suit. We came to realise that we deviated from those standards to our cost.

Casper Wrede was born in Finland. He came to England to study at the Old Vic Drama School and began directing here in 1962, spending two years as a professional producer with the Oxford University Dramatic Society. He directed for BBC television, and began directing with Michael Elliott.

As a theatre director his preoccupation was with content not form, which, of course, made him unfashionable. At the Royal Exchange he directed the British premiere of Heinrich Von

Kleist's *The Prince of Hamburg* (1976) and a string of other continental works including Arthur Schnitzler's *The Round Dance* (*La Ronde*) in 1982, Ibsen's *The Wild Duck* in 1983 and the award-winning *The Three Sisters* in 1985. He created his own adaptation of Nadezhda Mandelstam's *Against All Hope* in 1983.

He also revealed gifts for television and the cinema. He directed all my early television plays and Laurence Olivier's TV debut as John Gabriel Borkman. He directed Edith Evans in *Hay Fever* and Tom Courtenay in *Time and Time Again*. His friend Courtenay also starred in the film *Solomon's Song* (*One Day in the Life of Ivan Denisovich*). It was an achievement of which he was justly proud. His other films included *Private Potter* and *Reasons*. A documentary made for the BBC — one of five — on Sibelius was fine and uncompromising.

He was married twice: first to Dilys Hamlett in 1951 — the marriage was dissolved in 1976 — with whom he had a son, and then in 1982 to Karin Bang, who survives him. Casper and I were friends for almost 40 years. He was one of the most remarkable and original men I have been

my privilege to know. Our relationship was intense, almost always enjoyable but, as with all true friendships, occasionally strained. The strains arose from my own timidity and from a severity in Casper's persona that could be fierce, elegant and judgmental. His rigorous demands one often at first resisted, but with time realised must be embraced. This was the experience, I suspect, of many of those close to him. It should, however, be understood that those demands were never self-serving, for he had a rare ability to detach himself from the more mundane concerns which afflicted others. He was never remotely petty; on the contrary, the pressures he exerted arose from the rarefied atmosphere of thought and spirit in which he seemed mostly to exist. Yet he could be endearingly human, full of good fellowship and good humour. Strikingly handsome and with impeccable manners, his knowledge extended to a surprising array of subjects which included food, wine, architecture, motor cars, esoteric philosophy and, perhaps, above all, the natural world which he loved with a passion.

He could, I believe, have been a splendid writer. He had a prodigious memory for people and places and an intimate relationship with the written word in several languages. But there were in him self-inflicted barriers that made his own creative process problematical and, occasionally, agonising. Yet, ironically, he was possessed of a creative insight into the creativity of others. He understood and could analyse, as no one else I have known, the mysterious workings of the human personality in all its baffling complexity set against the force and context of the historical imperative, and this gift he laboured at all his life.

I, for one, will always be grateful to him: without Casper, my life would be impoverished. He was a towering and profound human being, a man of immense dignity, whose true memorial will be the lasting inspiration he gave to those, like me, who were fortunate to know and love him.

Ronald Harwood

Casper Wrede, director, born February 8, 1929; died September 28, 1998

Mazhar Khan

## A life of crime in Bombay

MAZHAR KHAN, who has died aged 45, will be remembered as a popular character actor in Hindi cinema and on Indian television — and for a flamboyant lifestyle. Mazhar, a saucy Muslim, made his film debut in *Ramshir* in 1974. He played a host of Bollywood stars. The movie established his reputation as a highly talented actor, although he lacked the looks of a typical Hindi film hero. However, Mazhar soon became typecast and ended up repeatedly playing gangsters, as in *Shahid* and *Nair's Angra*, where he was cast as the scheming son of a criminal boss.

In search of good parts he tried south Indian language films, with little success. In the mid-1980s, suffering from kidney problems, he turned down his film appearances, just as the era of television serials began in India. It was an ideal medium for Mazhar and it was again Ramshir Shippy who offered him the role of Roshanlal in his serial *Bunty*.

Mazhar Khan was the son of an advocate and studied at Bombay's prestigious Christian School and St Xavier's College. His first marriage was to a model, Nandini Son. His second was to Rubina, the niece of Bollywood's tragedy king Dilip Kumar. Rubina, a woman of independent nature, soon announced that she found it "impossible" to live with him.

His third much-publicised marriage was to a glamorous actress of yesteryear, Zeenat Aman. They met on the set of the Indian version of *Bhawanji Junction*. But he had a series of affairs with the Bollywood girls who buzzed around him, while she was a self-proclaimed sex bomb. Their recent divorce was accompanied by Mazhar accusing his wife of trying to live her screen life for real, while she accused him of beating her up in public. The divorce Mazhar was a broken man.

He was immensely fond of literature. But he loved acting and the cinema. As he breathed his last, his very own film *Gang*, set in the Bombay underworld, was almost ready for release. He and Zeenat had two sons and a daughter.

Haresh Pandya

Mazhar Khan, actor, born July 22, 1953; died September 15, 1998

### Letter

Professor U Sulkowski writes: I only had the pleasure to experience the skills of David Dunn (obituary, September 29) as surgeon and teacher for six weeks during an elective period as a medical student at Addenbrook's hospital, but he taught me more than just surgery; he radiated and reflected the idea that work and working is not just struggling and coping with the various shortcomings of today's medical practice but something enjoyable and fulfilling. An attitude which we Germans — and German surgeons in particular — unfortunately, very often lack. Thus, David Dunn had substantially hastened my professional success (which he, to my amazement, had foreseen) but I am even more grateful to him for the chance to experience his character and his view on life. There is only one sad thing about it: there won't be a chance to meet David Dunn on earth again.

### Death Notices

CHICHESTER (COSSLEY), William, suddenly in home service on Thursday 26th October, Woodlands Crematorium, Lower Road, Chichester, aged 71. Flowers may be sent to Mrs A. K. K. 277 Church Street, Brighton. Tel: 01273 988 228.

ROBERTS, James Davidson, on September 29th 1998, James of Bury, passed away peacefully in hospital, aged 71 years. Deeply loved husband of Doreen and dear brother of Eileen and Natalie. Funeral service to take place on Friday, October 30th at 11.00 am at Walsley Parish Church, Bury. Burial in Walsley Cemetery. Donations to Walsley Parish Church. Inquiries to Co-ordinator, Walsley Parish Church, Bury, tel 0161 417 417.

### In Memoriam

NEWBAM, Kate, 30th September 1993 to 2nd September 1998. You are missed very much by all your family and friends, but your light and wit will still shine on us through your wonderful son Tom.

### Birthdays

BARRETT, Rev. Dr. Gordon OBE, aged 76. Past President of the Methodist Church and former Principal of NCH Action for Children.

Eva Reichmann

## The Germany that didn't succumb

ALONGSIDE the philosopher Hannah Arendt and the historian Egon Schallert, Eva Reichmann, who has died aged 101, was one of this century's three outstanding German-Jewish women scholars.

Born Eva Jungmann in Silesia, she took a social sciences doctorate at Heidelberg before joining the Berlin head office of the Jewish defence organisation, the Centralverein, in 1924. Her first years, as a woman working in a typical male-orientated organisation, were not easy — and it did not help that she was more intelligent than most of her colleagues.

She married the lawyer Hans Reichmann, also a Centralverein functionary. They were a remarkable partnership. Hans was one of the ini-

tiators of a cleverly camouflaged anti-Nazi propaganda campaign in the last phase of the Weimar Republic, and Eva provided intellectual ammunition as editor of an influential Jewish journal.

In 1933, the battle lost, they stayed with the organisation to assist the beleaguered community. Within the framework of the Nazi regime, the Reichmanns exploited every legal loophole by which Nazi orders could be circumvented. In November 1938, after the *Kristallnacht*, the state-sponsored mob attack on Jews and Jewish property, Hans was in Berlin and sent to Sachsenhausen concentration camp. When he was released they fled to Britain.

Exile meant, initially, hardship and wartime internment

for Hans, but Eva later found a place working at the BBC. After the war she became director of research at the War Library, alerting the British public to the continuing threat of fascism and racism. For her, as for so many émigrés, exile became integration and England a much-loved homeland. She was one of the founders of the *Leo Baeck* Institute, set up in London for the study of the history of German Jewry, and here her work is seminal.

The *magisterial Hostages of Civilisation* (1980), for which she gained a second doctorate from the London School of Economics, is the most profound analysis of the Jewish catastrophe in Germany. Unlike her antagonist, the scholar Gershom Scholem, she did not accept that Jewish integration in Germany had been a total failure. She maintained that the politically progressive Jewish group had fallen victim to an immature German nationalism — the German title *Flucht in den Hass* — Flight Into Hate — better conveys her thesis. Hers is a complex and shrewd analysis and the book is a mine of information.

On the death of her sister Elizabeth, who had married Max Beerbohm, Eva Reichmann became holder of the copyright of Beerbohm's literary estate. Elizabeth Jungmann had had a penchant for older creative writers. She was secretary to the playwright Gerhard Hauptmann, a close friend of the poet Rudolf Binding, and companion to Beerbohm, whom she married shortly before he died. She outlived him by barely a year. Eva, too, was an admirer of Max, and this brought her the friendship of Beerbohm's publisher, Rupert Hart-Davies. In a journal entry Hart-Davies details the unusual dinner served at "a very good dinner with the Reichmanns". It was Hans who cooked; Eva merely



Reichmann... working for German-Jewish reconciliation

chose the wines. Their Hampstead home offered gastronomic as well as intellectual meat.

Hans Reichmann died in 1964. Eva continued to receive and entertain visitors, a gentle, former historian, came to discuss their work. She was skilled at prompting one to think that insights gained and formulations evolved were entirely one's own when, in fact, they derived from her inspiration.

As author and lecturer, she worked for German-Jewish reconciliation after the war. She had loathed the excesses of fanatical German nationalism, but had always maintained that there was another Germany of those who had never entirely succumbed to Nazism and felt that they had

to be supported and strengthened. To the young she spoke directly, frequently lecturing in Germany in recognition of her services to German democracy, the federal government awarded her its highest honour.

She had no children. In a BBC interview she said how much she had wanted a family, but her husband told her that it would be cruel to bring children into the world in terrible times. "So Hitler took your children," in a sense, said the interviewer. "Yes," she replied emotionally, "he took my children."

Arnold Paucker

Eva Reichmann, historian, born January 16, 1897; died September 16, 1998

### CORRECTIONS AND CLARIFICATIONS

IN A report, Page 2, September 28, headed, Mail mirrors triumph of middle class, we said it was the first time that the Mail had outsold the Mirror. This was not true. The Mail was founded in 1896, the Mirror in 1924. The Mirror did not establish its supremacy immediately. We said that since 1992 the Mail had added 700,000 readers. It has added about 700,000 copies to its circulation; the number of new readers would be far greater. We said David Montgomery was the Mirror Group chairman. He is chief executive. The chairman is Victor Blank.

A CAPTION to a photograph on Page 15, yesterday, said Benjamin Netanyahu shakes hands with Madeleine Albright as Yasser Arafat looks on, although it was plain to see that it was Netanyahu and Arafat who were shaking hands. It was corrected for late editions.

A CAPTION, Page 19, September 25, to a photograph with a report headed, Colonel admits Lesotho error, spell Lesotho incorrectly (Lesotho).

PROFESSOR Reginald Jones, who appeared in our Birthdays column, Page 22, yesterday, died in December last year. Apologies.

It is the policy of the Guardian to correct errors as soon as possible. Please quote date and page number. Readers may contact the office of the Readers' Editor by telephoning 0171 239 5655 between 11am and 5pm, Monday to Friday. Surface mail to Readers' Editor, The Guardian, 119, Farringdon Road, London EC1R 3ER. Fax: 0171 239 5987. E-mail: reader@guardian.co.uk

### Birthdays

The Rev Gordon Barritt, former principal, NCH Action for Children, 78 Lord Belstead, former chairman, the Parole Board, 68, Stenham Lane, Cole, actress, 57, Lord Cranborne, Conservative leader, House of Lords, 52, David Cragan, playwright, 67, Hilton Dawson, Labour MP, 45, Angie Dickinson, actress, 57, John Goodwin, director, Inner Cities Young People's Project, 52, Teresa Gorman, Conservative MP, 67, Anthony Green, painter, 59, Alan Harker, clarinetist and conductor, 60, Rt Rev Patrick Harris, Bishop of Southwell, 64, Deborah Kerr, actress, 77, Rula Lenska, actress, 51, Johnny Mathis, singer, 61, Ian Ogilvy, actor, 56, Penelope Penney, educationalist, 56, Stewart Steven, chairman, Liberty Publishing, 63, Victoria Tennant, actress, 48.

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# Analysis New technology

**Don't  
panic, but  
here  
comes  
the next  
one**

DVD stands for Digital Video Disc and it's coming to a computer near you soon. It allows much more data to be stored. Enough, say, for two or more versions of the same Hollywood film. Does that mean it's time to junk your video cassette recorder or audio CD player? **Jack Schofield** advises caution.

**I**T'S THE next big thing since the last big thing, which might have been Sony's MiniDisk or Philips's Digital Compact Cassette or DAT Audio Tape, or CD-interactive (CDi), or Video CD or whatever it is to launch a new format for the music, films or computer software. Many consumers have suffered from previous "format wars"—notably the battle between VHS and Betamax videotape systems. They know it's expensive to back a losing format and don't want to make the same mistake twice. But with the launch of DVD the consumer electronics industry seems to have learned the same lesson.

Simon Heller is a marketing consultant working for the DVD Committee, a British suppliers' group, which is about to launch a publication on the subject of DVD. He, he says, an example of "companies putting aside their own sales and marketing strategies for the good of the format". In this case, Sony, Philips, JVC, Panasonic, Pioneer, and Toshiba are all the same, and it's not hard to understand why. Compact cassette tapes have been around since the 1960s, video tapes since the Seventies, and CDs since the early eighties. But now the audio "mature" formats, which means most

**potential buyers have already got one and don't really want another**

What the suppliers want is a guarantee that will keep production lines turning for another 20 years. Film studios and content suppliers, retailers and magazine publishers like the idea as well. If you once bought all your favourite records on vinyl and then bought them again on CD, the industry loves you. Similarly if you've bought all your favourite movies on VHS tape, you'll want to buy them again on DVD-Video disc. And that's because DVD will provide higher quality, greater ease of use and more durability than VHS. The lesson learned by manufacturers — DVD players will also play your older CDs. The consumer pays, but everyone wins.

DVD has the same basic format as CD, which has been sensationally successful since it was launched by Philips and Sony in 1982. DVD will thus benefit from some of the huge economies of scale that have helped make CDs so cheap to produce plus the ready supply of storage boxes, racks, and high-street shops with the right-sized shelves.

DVD is different because computer technology has moved on in the past 16 years and it's now possible to put much more data on the same size disc. This increased capacity is useful in itself but

DVD doubles it and has the capacity to double it again. The first doubling comes about because where analog CDs have only one layer of data, DVD can have two layers, one on top of the other. When the laser in the playing equipment reads the top layer, the bottom layer is out of focus, and vice versa. (In fact, in the laboratory, it's already possible to read disks with many more layers of information.)

The second doubling comes from an even simpler idea: use both sides of the disc. DVD, unlike CD, allows for double-sided discs. Expanding the disc's capacity solves the main problem with the CD format. While it had enough capacity to hold one or even two vinyl LPs, it couldn't manage a full-length Hollywood film. Using data compression, about 74 minutes was the best you could get. Using two discs meant Joe Sixpack had to get up to change discs while watching a film, and real couch potatoes couldn't be expected to do that.

**B**UT DVD has so much more capacity than CD, it's possible to do much more. Since one layer of data on a DVD-Video disk can hold a movie lasting 135 minutes, it's possible to put four films on a dual-layer, double-side disk. This has practical

applications. It means that, for example, publishers can put a T-style ("pan & scan") version of a film on one layer and a widescreen ("letter-box") version on another. The extra capacity could also be used to store alternate versions of a film, censored and uncensored versions, up to nine different camera angles, or "branching" videos with multiple storylines. DVD also has space for cinema-style sound and subtitles, and a host of other features: left/right or left/center/right, two rear speakers, and a subwoofer for extra bass), different language versions, subtitles, captions for children, lyrics for karaoke and so on. Of course, all these features will cost, and have these features — publishers have to put them in — but the capability is there. And as

with CD, there are many other potential uses, which is why manufacturers are calling them Digital Versatile Discs rather than Digital Video Discs. In fact, the most rapid adoption may not be in DVD players but in the personal computer and games console markets. Datamonitor predicts that in five years 78 per cent of the software bought by European consumers will be delivered on DVD-ROM instead of on CD-ROM(1).

Fujitsu, Japan's largest computer company launched the first computer with a built-in DVD-ROM drive at the end of 1996, and DVD drives

started to become popular in the United States last year. Mass market computer companies such as Time and Gateway are already offering PCs with DVD-ROM drives here and read/write or recordable DVD-ROM drives are becoming popular. But readability also creates confusion. For example, Panasonic, one of the format's leading Japanese backers, touts the fact that its DVD-ROM computer drive can read DVD-ROM, DVD-Video, DVD-Audio, DVD-R, DVD-RW, CD-ROM, CD-R, CD-RW (read/write) and Video CD formats, and it foresees the time when DVD-RAM drives are small and cheap enough to use in video cameras. Richard L. Davis, Panasonic's U.S. spokesman, says: "DVD is all encompassing."

**A**LTHOUGH computer read/write drives can't produce DVD discs that can be read by today's DVD players, "eventually the aim is that all the DVD formats will be compatible and interchangeable with each other." There has already been a spat between backers of different types of writable DVD, but Todd says the DVD-RAM version that Panasonic uses has been approved by the DVD Forum, the organisation that controls DVD standards. He reckons the not-approved

DVD+RAM system, proposed last year by Philips and Sony and others, should now be called something different, like PC-RW (for Phase Change Read/Write).

There's another spat brewing between different approaches to audio. As well as playing today's audio CDs, DVD players could be used to provide better sound reproduction, by using much higher sampling rates and storing a more accurate record of the music. A DVD Forum working group is due to decide on a DVD-Audio standard this month and it is clearly not going to support another proposal from Sony and Philips called SACD (Super Audio Compact Disc). Andy Clough, the editor of *What Hi-Fi?* magazine, says he

expects the working group to allow for three different ways of storing hi-fi on DVD, "and two of them won't play on existing DVD players!" The one that will play on almost all of them — multi-channel Dolby Digital — is, he says, "more oriented towards surround sound than straight audio." It may appeal more to home cinema buffs than hi-fi purists. Super Audio CD does have an appeal. Since the DVD format provides for two layers of data, it says, why not use one for DVD-Audio and the other for CD? That way, the same disc will run in both types of player. SACD's advan-

tage is that music publishers will only have to produce, and consumers will only have to buy one dual-format CD. Aware that standards battles are anathema to consumers, Phillips's spokeswoman, Marijke van Hooren, is ready to put a Dutch finger in the dyke. SACD, she says, "is still a technology discussion. We're showing the world why we think it's a good solution for backwards compatibility and backwards compatibility with audio CD is very important. But we haven't entered into any product discussions yet, and you cannot exclude the possibility that the two groups will find a solution."

**A**S for the different read/write formats, van Hooren points out that most are aimed at professional uses like disc mastering and computer storage, which are of no relevance to consumers. "You need to have a world standard for DVD-Video and DVD-ROM," she says. "But a DVD-RW [read/write] format for consumers, where you really need far more storage capacity we don't see that happening in the next two to three years. Like the DVD-Audio format, DVD-RW is still under discussion, and some onlookers doubt that it will ever be a practical way for consumers

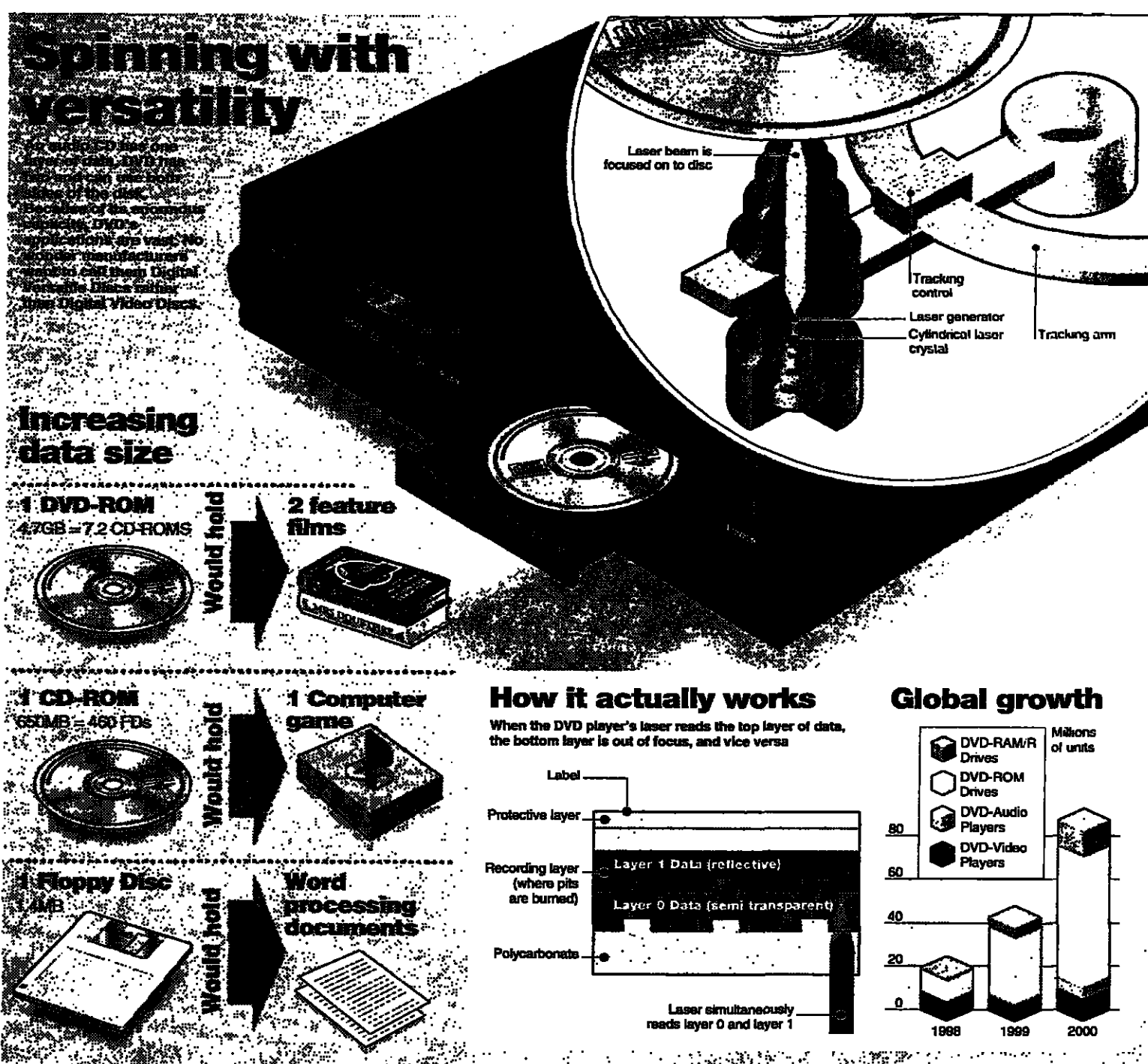
to record television programmes(2).

Indeed, D-VHS, a data format that can hold good old analog tapes' worth of material, is more attractive. The manufacturers JVC launched its first D-VHS recorder in the United States this summer and a D-VHS tape, which looks just like a normal VHS tape, can hold record seven hours, 21 hours, or 49 hours of video, depending on quality. Digital Compact Cassettes weren't a success, but digital VHS tapes are a different story. In sum, while DVD may one day turn out to be a universal panacea, at the moment it's mainly just a better way of playing back movies for those who own a lot of movies. So what should consumers do? "It's very simple," says Andy Clough of What Hi-Fi? "Sit back and wait. It's early days yet, and it's not clear what the real deal is in audio or video. It's not going to disappear overnight."

**Sources:** (1) CD-ROM Publishing in Europe, 1997-2002, Datamonitor Europe, 106 Baker Street, London W1M 1LA; (2) See the DVD FAQ of Frequently Asked Questions posted in the [www.video.dvd.theset.net/newsgroup](http://www.video.dvd.theset.net/newsgroup) or on the Web at <http://www.video-discovers.com/vdyweb/dvd/dvdfaq.html>  
Graphics: Finbarr Sheehy.  
Jack Schofield is the Guardian's computer editor.



**Their hearts are  
with the Co-op,  
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Somerfields**



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# Rate cut deflates Wall St

## Cutting a dash in laidback fashion

# Hedge funds boost £100bn deals

The survey confirmed London's status as the world's leading centre for foreign exchange trading. Daily turnover was up 37 per cent on three years ago and totalled \$637 billion - equalling the total of the next three largest centres, New York, Tokyo and Singapore.

The idea is not new. It was floated a couple of years ago but monetary union was then some way short of a racing certainty so the scheme never got off the ground. The proposal does have some attrac-

PHOTOGRAPH: JOE MARQUETTE

## Growth must sprout from fig leaf policy

**F**EDERAL Reserve chairman Alan Greenspan enjoys a reputation as a markets maestro. As one cynical observer noted at the height of the Clinton crisis presidency: "It's a good job it's not someone important like [Treasury secretary Robert] Rubin or Greenspan."

Yet Mr Greenspan's interest rate call yesterday was perhaps one of the most delicate he has had to make. It was not that Mr Greenspan and his colleagues on the Fed's open market committee could just give the interest rate lever a twist and thus

**free the world economy from crisis.**

In practical terms the Fed cut simply sanctioned falls in market interest rates which have already taken place. US corporates and consumers will not suddenly find their debt burdens hugely lightened, boosting profits and triggering an economy-boosting spending spree.

The Fed's move is all about market psychology, about confidence, at home and abroad. "It shows the Fed's awareness of the risk the financial market turmoil poses to the economy," according to

Then there is increasing concern that the financial market contagion will spread decisively to Latin America. Brazil in particular. At the end of March US banks' expo-

feel wealthier and more prepared to spend — which will help to keep the economy moving. If the Fed can calm nerves, investors may be less inclined to seek safe havens

"It is impressive and frightening how much does hang on one person. If the markets ever think Mr Greenspan has lost it, what else is there?" asks Allison Cottrell at PaineWebber.

# City traders face jobs and bonus disaster

P TO 2500 million could be wiped off City bonanza this year after last's record 21 billion Christmas bonanza.

Thousands of jobs are under threat because of the recent turmoil on world financial markets.

And a leading City employment lawyer said changes in City employment practices are under banks keen to cut their payroll costs and paying workers on flexible contracts and shorter working weeks.

The downturn in the fortunes of City workers, after six years of booming growth which culminated in last year's record, has happened with phenomenal speed.

It came as the collapse of the Russian economy, which dented stockmarket

confidence around the world and has been fueled by last year's unprecedented \$2 billion bail-out of a high-risk US hedge fund.

"In the last six weeks the world has changed," said an investment banker. "This is an extraordinary month, with a 12 to 18 month downturn." Another senior banker warned: "This is worse than 1987." After that downturn up to 50,000 City jobs were lost.

The huge drop in annual bonus payments was predicted by the Council, a consultant with the Center for Economics and Business Research (CEBR), which provides forecasts and analysis for many top banks.

"Unless there is a massive let-up in the turmoil, it looks like the worst is yet to come. There is no bottom." The CEBR's predictions come as

speculation mounts about the extent of job losses planned by investment banks.


The worst-hit businesses are the debt markets and traders specialising in the emerging economies. Equity traders who specialise in Britain, the US and Europe might escape relatively unscathed. They had a record first half.

But yesterday the spokesman at one Japanese City bank said the mood in the Square Mile was gloomy. Some areas of the investment market, he said, had stopped trading. "There is a lot of people trying to get things off their books," he said.

Barclays Capital, which says it faces substantial losses from Russia and which was involved in last week's hedge fund collapse, has declined to comment on reports that it plans to shed 200 jobs. UBS, of


**Traders love the high life but**

Switzerland, Europe's biggest bank, which faces a loss of more than £200 million for its investment in the hedge fund, and other losses, is understood to be considering further job cuts in London. It has reduced its City workforce by 2,000 this year after merging with ZBC Warburg Dillon Read, and has ordered all staff to remain upbeat when deal-



recession will spell disaster for the country. The country is facing with clients to avoid further undermining confidence. Investment banks are notoriously coy about plans for hiring and firing, but several are already sounding alarms and say that costs must be cut.

At Merrill Lynch, which employs 6,000, City workers, staff have been told that they must reduce expenses. The



for many PHOTOGRAPH BY ANDY HALL

### Measure of consolation

**GOLDMAN SACHS** was expected to name 180 new managing partners last night in an attempt to pay employees who had expected to share in the vast rewards of its postponed stock market flotation, writes *Jill Treanor*.

Managing partners are considered to be on a fast track to partnership at the investment bank and almost certainly to become directors. There were rumours in London last night that 36 of the new managing partners would be Europe-based.

The managing partner status was only introduced two years ago and the first upgrades to full partner are expected to be announced next month.

Yesterday Jon Corzine, senior partner, in a broadcast to staff, said, "I am not kidding, explained that there was a 'clear execution risk' in running the firm now. He stressed that the 200 or so partners would be a 'small fraction' of the firm's new capital base. He said that the firm's flotation last night would be a 'watershed' in world stock markets and some of the world's US banks have watched their shares collapse by 50 per cent or more since the announcement.

While Goldman's rivals saw the decision by the 200 or so partners to delay the flotation as sensible, they thought the bank's reputation might suffer a temporary dent to its long-term standing. "They've got such a huge reputation," one investment banker said. "They've got eyes on their faces in the short term."

Australia 2.78	Germany 2.77	Malaysia 6.38	Singapore 2.81
Austria 16.49	Greece 400.08	Mexico 6.62	South Africa 9.71
Belgium 37.38	Hong Kong 12.69	Netherlands 9.123	Spain 234.91
Brazil 26.04	India 71.56	New Zealand 9.31	Sweden 13.50
Cyprus 0.62	Ireland 1.108	Norway 12.38	Switzerland 2.351
Denmark 10.82	Israel 6.46	Portugal 283.43	Turkey 446,950
France 8.46	Italy 2.762	Saudi Arabia 6.30	U.S. 1.004

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Racing

# Nosedal lodges his intentions

Graham Rock sees Wannabe complete a grand day for the Newmarket trainer

IF YOU could bet on the trainers' championship, Jeremy Nosedal would be a sound wager to win the title over the next decade. He secured his first Group One victory when Wannabe Grand's late burst outpaced Imperial Beauty by half a length in the Shadwell Stud Cheveley Park Stakes at Newmarket yesterday, and then announced that he would be taking over from David Loder at Sefton Lodge next year. We were given a hint of Nosedal's potential when Wannabe Grand took the Cherry Hinton Stakes. She was no match for Binti Allay in the Lowther Stakes and then failed to last in the Epsom Derby. Nosedal would not commit Wannabe Grand to next year's 1,000 Guineas, for which his filly is a best-priced 38-1 with Ladbrokes. "She didn't stay seven in the sort at the Curragh, so we'll have to see," he said.

While this year's Cheveley Park field looked some way below the standard required to win a Classic, Nosedal was quick to praise Wannabe Grand for her attitude. "This was her 1,000 Guineas and her Derby today. She's danced every dance this season and still come back for more. Not many two-year-olds run eight times and then show their best form. She's made of iron. There could be better fillies, but none tougher or braver."

With Loder training two-year-olds for Godolphin at Ebury next year, Nosedal will take over Sefton Lodge, owned by Edward St George, who will have between 10 and 20 horses in training at the Newmarket yard. Nosedal intends to keep on his present establishment, Shalfleet, and should have more than 100 horses in his care next season.

"It's been a difficult first year," said Nosedal, who began with 48 horses last November, most of them backward two-year-olds. "Next year should be much better. Things will have settled down."

Peter Makin was pleased with Imperial Beauty. "She ran a cracker," he beamed. "and the progressive filly will be his first runner in a Classic when she lines up for the 1,000 Guineas next May."

Of more relevance to next year's Classics might be the victory of Timahs, who swept through from the middle of the pack to make a successful debut in the Solihull Maiden Stakes and earn a 50-1 Derby quote from the Tote.

Mark Channon sent out Maidan to land the £100,000 bonus for the Tattersalls Houghton Sales Conditions Stakes. Like Timahs, Maidan carries the colours of Sheikh Ahmed al Maktoum, and he might be trained under the Godolphin banner next season. They completed a 95-1 double for Kieren Fallon.

Houston Time and Frankie Dettori made a bold bid to take the Tattersalls race to Nosedal, who at the age of 35, potential champion or no, already knows that you cannot win them all.



Class act... Pat Eddery powers home on the gallant Wannabe Grand to capture yesterday's Group One Cheveley Park Stakes



Class act... Pat Eddery powers home on the gallant Wannabe Grand to capture yesterday's Group One Cheveley Park Stakes

Rugby League

# Bradbury fined and banned for 'attack to head'

John Huxley

SALFORD'S David Bradbury was yesterday banned for the first five games of 1999 for the high tackle which gave the Bradford prop Harvey Howard a suspected broken jaw in the final round of Super League matches on Sunday.

The League's disciplinary committee also imposed a £150 fine on the back-rower, who was found guilty of making a "deliberate attack to the head of an opponent with a forearm" to earn dismissal at Oldham.

## Dream Well on song for Arc

DREAM WELL, the French and Irish Derby winner, pleased in a work-out yesterday in his preparation for the Prix de l'Arc de Triomphe at Longchamp on Sunday.

After the colt worked over 2,000 metres with three stable companions, his trainer Pascal Bary said: "There is no doubt Dream Well has made a lot of progress since his run in the Prix Niel [when he was 11½ lengths back in third to Sagami] and in any case, the ground was awful at Longchamp that day."

In the Arc Bary also has Croco Rouge, who finished second a neck behind Dream Well in the French Derby.

When asked which one he would advise punters to back, Bary said: "I just prefer Croco Rouge. I thought he was my strongest candidate for the French Derby but Dream Well proved me wrong that day. However, I think Croco Rouge might gain his revenge."

Right-handed top course for races of 1m 1m. Run-in of 71 fms part of nearly straight mile. Soft, good to go in places. ● Denotes blinkers. ● Top form rating. Denotes Low numbers returned in sprints. Seven days' winners. International Race Horse Society. Figures in brackets after horse's name denote days since last outing. J, jumps.

GRAHAM ROCK	TOP FORM
1.50	Deal Fair
2.20	Luckin
2.50	Patrist
3.20	Lavender
3.50	Chesham Cat
4.20	Shadwell
4.50	Present Situation

TOP FORM
Deal Fair
Western Fully
Chesham Cat
Brave Edge
Deal Shadwell
Sea Dazzle

1.50 MARLBOROUGH MAIDEN STAKES 2YO (Div 1)	
1.50	Deal Fair
2.20	Luckin
2.50	Patrist
3.20	Lavender
3.50	Chesham Cat
4.20	Shadwell
4.50	Present Situation

2.20 E.B.F. MARLBOROUGH MAIDEN STAKES 2YO (Div 2)	
2.20	Deal Fair
2.50	Luckin
3.20	Patrist
3.50	Lavender
4.20	Chesham Cat
4.50	Shadwell

2.40 LEWISFIELD 5TH ANNIVERSARY SELLING STAKES 2YO	
2.40	Deal Fair
2.50	Luckin
3.20	Patrist
3.50	Lavender
4.20	Chesham Cat
4.50	Shadwell

3.10 MASCO SECURITY SYSTEMS NURSERY HANDICAP 2YO	
3.10	Deal Fair
3.20	Luckin
3.50	Patrist
4.20	Lavender
4.50	Chesham Cat
5.20	Shadwell

2.50 GBRONCO CONDITIONS STAKES 2YO	
2.50	Deal Fair
2.50	Luckin
3.20	Patrist
3.50	Lavender
4.20	Chesham Cat
4.50	Shadwell

3.20 TOTTENHAM TRIFECTA RATED HANDICAP	
3.20	Deal Fair
3.20	Luckin
3.50	Patrist
4.20	Lavender
4.50	Chesham Cat
5.20	Shadwell

3.50 E.B.F. AUTUMN NOVICE STAKES 2YO	
3.50	Deal Fair
3.50	Luckin
4.20	Patrist
4.50	Lavender
5.20	Chesham Cat
5.50	Shadwell

4.20 HURDLERS CLAIMING HANDICAP	
4.20	Deal Fair
4.20	Luckin
4.50	Patrist
5.20	Lavender
5.50	Chesham Cat
6.20	Shadwell

4.40 LEVY BOARD MAIDEN HANDICAP	
4.40	Deal Fair
4.40	Luckin
4.50	Patrist
5.20	Lavender
5.50	Chesham Cat
6.20	Shadwell

4.10 MARK CHAMBER MAIDEN STAKES	
4.10	Deal Fair
4.10	Luckin
4.20	Patrist
4.50	Lavender
5.20	Chesham Cat
5.50	Shadwell

4.40 LEVY BOARD MAIDEN HANDICAP	
4.40	Deal Fair
4.40	Luckin
4.50	Patrist
5.20	Lavender
5.50	Chesham Cat
6.20	Shadwell

5.10 LADROCKES SOUTH DOWNS HANDICAP	
5.10	Deal Fair
5.10	Luckin
5.20	Patrist
5.50	Lavender
6.20	Chesham Cat
6.50	Shadwell

5.10 WELCOME TO BRIGHTON CLASSIFIED STAKES 3YO	
5.10	Deal Fair
5.10	Luckin
5.20	Patrist
5.50	Lavender
6.20	Chesham Cat
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5.50	Lavender
6.20	Chesham Cat
6.50	Shadwell

5.10 WELCOME TO BRIGHTON CLASSIFIED STAKES 3YO	
5.10	Deal Fair
5.10	Luckin
5.20	Patrist
5.50	Lavender
6.20	Chesham Cat
6.50	Shadwell

4.50 ADMIRAL 100 APPRENTICES HANDICAP	
4.50	Deal Fair
4.50	Luckin
4.50	Patrist
4.50	Lavender
4.50	Chesham Cat
4.50	Shadwell

4.50 ADMIRAL 100 APPRENTICES HANDICAP	
4.50	Deal Fair
4.50	Luckin
4.50	Patrist
4.50	Lavender
4.50	Chesham Cat
4.50	Shadwell

4.50 ADMIRAL 100 APPRENTICES HANDICAP	
4.50	Deal Fair
4.50	Luckin
4.50	Patrist
4.50	Lavender
4.50	Chesham Cat
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4.50 ADMIRAL 100 APPRENTICES HANDICAP	
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TheGuardian INTERACTIVE



## Football: Uefa Cup first round, second leg

Lyon 2 Blackburn Rovers 2 (agg: 3-2)

## Flitcroft's fightback all in vain

Jon Henley in Lyon

**E**VEN a team with an embarrassment of riches would have been in difficulties with four injured strikers sitting at home, but last night Blackburn came achingly close to overcoming such a crippling handicap.

A first-leg goal down to a young Lyon team unbeaten in 13 matches and currently lying second in the French League, the manager Roy Hodgson had to field a side without Chris Sutton, Kevin Davies, Kevin Gallacher and Martin Dahlin.

Against all expectations, though, Blackburn did more than hold their heads up. Down 2-1 at half-time, they came out fighting and 10 minutes into the new half Christian Dailly slipped a perfectly judged ball through to Gary Flitcroft, who slid it home to put Blackburn level at 2-2.

Just short of what was needed to go through. To increase their frustration Jason Wilcox was sent off 10 minutes before time for a second bookable offence.

Thrown on the defensive from the opening whistle, Blackburn had conceded a fatal free-kick as early as the third minute. Dailly brought down Alain Cavaglia on the edge of the penalty area and the Lyon captain picked himself up to power a perfectly struck shot past Tim Flowers.

Celtic 2 Vitoria Guimaraes 1 (agg 4-2)

## Larsson sees justice done

Patrick Glenn

**H**ENRIK LARSSON'S stoppage-time winner brought the result a markedly superior Celtic team deserved against shockingly weak visitors. Per- viously the home team were almost denied victory when Alan Stubbs's first-half opener was equalised four minutes from the end by Sven Soderstrom's thundering 25-yard drive.

Celtic's studied play for much of the night hardly stirred the crowd but it was a sensible approach in unusual circumstances — it is not often that the home team are protecting a 2-1 lead — and led to a variety of fine scoring efforts before Stubbs made the breakthrough.

Craig Burley had hit a 30-yard drive with the outside of his right foot, dipping just over the bar, before Harald Brattbakk produced a venomous volley from Tosh McKinlay's long cross from the left which forced Espinha into an exceptional save. Larsson then rattled the crossbar with a 25-yard free-kick.

Vitoria had looked vulnerable at set pieces. Marc Rieper heading a McKinlay corner marginally high —

and it was from another of these that Stubbs struck. McKinlay delivered a free-kick from the left to the forehead of the big defender and, unattended, he bulleted the ball low to the left of Espinha.

Vitoria were, by comparison, poor in forward areas. Lax with the final pass and lightweight in the finish, they occasionally contrived good space without threatening to capitalise. One slick move between Soderstrom and Kasongo, leaving the former with a reasonable chance, collapsed with a feeble and poorly placed shot which Jonathan Gould saved comfortably.

The Portuguese weakness was such that they even missed a penalty midway through the second half. Stéphane Mahé foolishly tripped the substitute, Edinson, and Espinha weakly chipped the conversion attempt over the bar.

But when Celtic next won a corner, McKinlay's accurate delivery allowed Larsson to head powerfully and accurately, only to see Quinn Berio block the ball on the goal-line.

Celtic (4-4-2): Gould, Hannah, Rieper, Stubbs, Mahé, Donnelly, Burley, Lambert, McKinlay, Larsson, Soderstrom, Rieper, Vitoria Guimaraes (4-4-2): Espinha, Quim Berio, Arley, Alexandre, Kasongo, Miguens, Goulas, Soderstrom, Rieper, Gilmer, Gerslo.

## Wallemme set to quit Coventry and return to struggling Lens

**T**HE Coventry City defender Jean-Guy Wallemme has hinted that he would like to return to his former club Lens.

Wallemme moved to Highfield Road from the French champions in the summer and as Lens's form has nosedived the club's supporters have called for his return.

The player told L'Equipe: "I play on magnificent pitches in legendary stadiums but my son Thomas isn't happy at school. I will

talk with my wife and if we have to call it a day we will come back."

Coventry last night completed the £1.9 million signing of the midfielder Steven Froggatt from Wolves and Charlton captured the defender Carl Tiler from Everton for £700,000.

Crystal Palace have signed the Swedish striker Mathias Svensson from the Austrian club Tirol and have agreed terms with Rangers for the Australian centre-back Craig Moore.

## Team talk

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Blackburn	64	Hudd. Town	74	Reading	58
Bolton	65	Ipwich Town	75	Sheff. United	88
Brentford	66	Leeds United	76	Sheff. Wed.	89
Burnley	67	Leicester City	77	Southampton	90
Bury	68	Liverpool	78	Spurs	91
Cardiff	69	Man. City	79	Stoke City	92
Charlton	99	Man. United	80	Stockport	12
Chelsea	80	Middlesbrough	81	Sunderland	93
Coventry City	70	Millwall	82	Watford	58
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Crewe	13	Norwich City	84	Wimbledon	95

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The Guardian INTERACTIVE



Crowded out... Jamie Redknapp tries to squeeze past the outstretched leg of Robert Seinenik at Anfield last night

PHOTOGRAPH: CLIVE BRUNSKILL

Liverpool 5 Kosice 0 (agg: 8-0)

## Redknapp's double fires Reds

Ian Ross

**P**ERHAPS now they will stop trotting out that tired old line about there being no easy games left in the European arena. Last night Liverpool, as expected, swamped an enthusiastic but ordinary Kosice team to move into the second round. Robbie Fowler rounding off the scoring with a header in the last minute.

When a club have two managers the potential for indecision is absolutely immense. Liverpool's manager, Gerard Houllier, was left to rue the fact that Roy Evans and Gérard Houllier had agreed that no team can hope to prosper if the last line of defence is a bag of nerves.

Friedel, a highly competent

shot-stopper but little more, had played with such fear in last Thursday's 2-0 defeat at Manchester United that he was replaced by David James.

Mind you, having cantered to a 3-0 victory in the tie's one-sided first leg a fortnight earlier, Liverpool could probably have fielded their youth side and progressed without recourse to using fourth gear.

Willing and dedicated though Kosice are, they would struggle for points in the English Third Division. They have brave hearts but ill-disciplined feet.

Anfield was hardly half-full but the players and officials of Kosice smiled engagingly and often as they surveyed a stadium so lavish that it did little to remind them of their own humble home. They were simply happy to be here.

Kosice moved forward smartly and quickly, the problem being that their ambition was undermined by an inability to keep possession for more than a few seconds.

Liverpool prodded and poked a defence which had proved to be water-thin in Slovakia, and every forward began to grow at Kosice's breakdown.

Chances came regularly but invariably fell to the wrong feet — Oyvind Leonhardsen and Jamie Redknapp both missing when Michael Owen and Robbie Fowler would probably have scored.

Of course when a 22-carat opportunity did fall to a Liverpool striker it was missed. Sixteen minutes in, Marek Sipiarz was adjudged to have hauled down Owen inside the area, the latest centre-back to

underestimate the 18-year-old's astonishing turn of speed.

Fowler's penalty was underlaid, allowing the goalkeeper Ladislav Molnar to save by dropping down smartly to his right.

Kosice's resistance was to be extended until the 22nd minute when in a thunderous drive from in excess of 35 yards to present Liverpool with a third goal in as many minutes. It was to get worse for Kosice, too, as Sipiarz was dismissed on the hour for a professional foul on Owen.

Liverpool (4-4-2): James, McAleer, Hoeggen, Smith, Babb (Molnar, 85), Carragher, Djordjevic, Leonhardsen, Redknapp, Ince (Sunderland, 71), Berger, Fowler, Owen.

Kosice (4-4-2): Molnar, Jarich, Dzuric, Sipiarz, Kozic, Savelj (Lapinskas, 82), Nemeth (Kosic, 82), Kral (Jander, 57), Kozic, Zvara, Semerk.

Referee: P. Garbain (France).

First Division  
Norwich City 2 Sunderland 2

## Table-top thriller

Trevor Haylett

**E**VEN if Sunderland had lost the leadership last night they won top marks — as did Norwich — for their contribution to a contest that sparkled with adventure and attacking thrills from the first minute to the last whistle.

Neither defence covered itself in glory but that only added to a memorable spectacle that owed much to the tricky wing skill shown by Nicky Summerbee and Allan Johnston for Sunderland and the always threatening Darren Eadie for the Canaries.

There could have been a goal in the first minute when Niall Quinn's drive tested Andy Marshall's agility.

By the third minute the Norwich goalkeeper was left helpless as Malky Mackay lost the sight of a long high ball, allowing Quinn to cushion it on his chest before angling a volley into the top corner of the net.

Mackay was soon to make amends as his shocking defensive error found a mirror image in the other penalty

area, not once but twice before the 25th minute. First Eadie brought Norwich level, rewarded for his awareness when every other player expected Ivan Roberts to turn home a ball played in from the right. Roberts's attempt deflected off Thomas Sorensen's leg and came back off a post to give the Norwich winger a simple first goal of the season.

Four minutes later Eadie's inswinging free-kick found the visitors' rear-guard ball-watching once more and any one of three yellow shirts could have taken advantage. The finishing touch belonged to Mackay.

The second half began no less explosively and this time the red face belonged to the previously assured Marshall. Trying to climb above his own defender and the huge bulk of Quinn, he succeeded merely in punching Chris Makins's cross into his own net.

Marwick (4-4-2): A. Marshall, Smith, Fleming, Mackay, Kenton (Fulbright, 74min), L. Marshall, Brannan, Grant, Eadie (Forbes, 67min), Bellamy, Roberts, Sorensen (4-4-2): Sorensen, Malkin, Makins, Butler, Gray, Summerbee, Rae, Bell, Johnston, Dicks, Gullu.

Referee: S. Davies (Cheshire).

## Forest seek loan until they sell Van Hooijdonk

**N**OTTINGHAM Forest have asked the Premier League for a £4 million loan in an attempt to end their stand-off with their rebel striker Pierre van Hooijdonk.

Forest, who hope to use the money to buy players, are preparing to sell the Dutch international, who has been on strike since the summer.

The Forest manager Dave Bassett, who cannot strengthen his squad until Van Hooijdonk is sold, said: "It is not a pie-in-the-sky idea. From what I understand the Premier League are sympathetic."

The Newcastle manager Ruffin Gullit is believed to be preparing a £6 million player-plus-cash offer for Ipswich's England Under-21 midfielder Kieron Dyer.

Gullit has been watching the 18-year-old since he signed for the club in 1994. He has been charged at St James' Park.

The former French international Vincent Guerin is poised to join Hearts, the Scottish club said yesterday. Guerin was a recently completed a six-month doping ban, was released by Paris St-Germain last season.

## Wolves 1 Queens Park Rangers 2

## Sheron returns to the fold to add to Wolves' misery

Peter White

**J**AIN DOWIE's spell as Wolves' caretaker-manager began in the best possible way at Molineux last night. Dowie, succeeding Ray Harford who resigned on Sunday, looked on as the Londoners secured their first points away from home this season, thanks to two early goals by Mike Sheron.

Perhaps Wolves manager Mark McGhee sensed problems in store when his programme notes declared he was "down to the bare bones" on players following the departure of Stephen Froggatt.

John Richards, Wolves' managing director, claimed the club had been forced to raise money to avoid a team strengthening but pointed out that revenue had to be found to offset losses of £50,000 a week.

Last night their multi-millionaire chairman, Sir Jack Hayward, had barely taken his seat in the directors' box when Wolves, without an away win in more than a year, went ahead after only 74 seconds, and were two up inside nine minutes.

A series of elementary errors allowed Sheron to make an immediate impact

on his recall. Steve Sedgley had missed his tackle on Paul Murray and Lee Naylor's back pass to the goalkeeper Mike Stowell lacked pace. Stowell's attempted clearance hit Murray and fell into the path of Sheron who hit a rising shot from eight yards.

Not satisfied, Sheron added a second when Kevin Gallen, sent scampering down the left by Gavin Peacock, squared the ball back for Sheron's fourth goal of the season.

Wolves looked in total disarray and after Rangers' substitute Steve Slade had shaved the bar from 25 yards the home side were greeted by boos and jeers at half-time.

The scoreline would have been more realistic had Gallen's low shot not been cleared from near the line by Keith Curle soon after the restart, although Wolves found one glimmer of hope on 56 minutes when Dominic Pugh headed home a corner from the left by fellow substitute Michael Gilkes.

The scoreline would have been more realistic had Gallen's low shot not been cleared from near the line by Keith Curle soon after the restart, although Wolves found one glimmer of hope on 56 minutes when Dominic Pugh headed home a corner from the left by fellow substitute Michael Gilkes.

Wolves (3-5-2): Stowell, Richards, Curle, Sedgley, Muesel, Embien, Gomez, Connolly, Smith, Gilkes, (Gilks, 64), Bull, Kaine.

Referee: D. Pugh (Wirral).

## Results

## Football

## UEFA CUP

## First-round, second leg

Celtic (1) 2 Vitoria Guimaraes (1) 1  
Sunderland (1) 2 Norwich City (1) 2

Liverpool (1) 5 Kosice (1) 0  
Blackburn Rovers (1) 2 Lyon (1) 2

Sheff. Wed. (1) 1 Sheff. United (1) 1  
Sheff. United (1) 1 Sheff. Wed. (1) 1

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## Leeds plan to force hand of Graham

John Wray in Funchal

**T**OTTENHAM HOTSPUR should know late today whether George Graham will leave Leeds and take on the challenge of managing the north London club he used to delight in thwarting during his Arsenal years.

"The situation has gone on far too long and when we get back to England I will tell George Graham to make up his mind," the Leeds chairman Peter Ridsdale said before last night's meeting with Martinus. "He has got to decide whether he wants to join Tottenham or to remain at Leeds. We are now ready to force the issue. He must tell us where his future lies."

"If he wants to join Tottenham, I will contact Alan Sugar myself to hammer out a deal with Spurs. We simply cannot allow this situation to drift along any longer. It's not good for the club."

Graham, who has been preparing his Leeds team here since their arrival on Monday evening, had earlier played a straight bat to persistent questioning, arguing that his future lies in the hands of Ridsdale and Sugar, the owner of Tottenham.

Graham nevertheless also plans talks with Ridsdale because he wants to return to London, both for family reasons and because of the exciting challenge that would await him at White Hart Lane.

Leeds are due to fly out late this morning and will arrive in Leeds in the afternoon. The discussions will begin in earnest.

It will be a major surprise if the chairman cannot reach agreement on a compensation figure for the release of Graham, whose contract is due to run until the summer of 2001.

However, Leeds are thought to be pressing for £3 million and Sugar would hope to get his man for a third of that amount.

Graham's assistant David O'Leary offered Ridsdale some reassurance. "I am employed by Leeds until I look after the first team and that is what I will do until I am told differently. It is a pleasure working here and I hope to continue doing that for a long time to come."

"We're still waiting for George to sit us down and tell us what is going on," the captain Lucas Radebe said here. "He hasn't said anything to us at all yet."

Carrying a precarious one-goal advantage into this tie, Leeds faced a psychological barrier arguably more daunting than opponents without a league win this season.

A 10th-minute reinforced the unfamiliarity of the occasion here in the foothills of Funchal in the compact 10,000-capacity Estadio dos Barreiros.

Alex Burnbury, Marinho's Canadian international and former West Ham striker, had warned Leeds to expect a torrid time, and the visit went into the match deprived of their injured Portuguese midfielder Bruno Ribeiro and on the back of an uncharacteristic high-scoring draw at Tottenham.

However, there was no sign of tension among the Leeds players as they went through a 45-minute training stint at the stadium soon after arriving in Madeira.

Road to defend and I think they were happy to concede just one goal," said Graham. "We are expecting them to attack us much more this time, but we are unbeaten this season so the signs look good."

Marinho came to Eland Road to defend and I think they were happy to concede just one goal," said Graham. "We are expecting them to attack us much more this time, but we are unbeaten this season so the signs look good."

## Sailing

## Double trouble for Gilding

**T**HE fourth day of Around Alone was not easy for Mike Gilding in Team Group 4 as he battled for the lead with Isabelle Autissier in PRB, writes Bob Fisher.

Gilding had to fender the mainsail to repair two battens; the carbon-fibre battens were poking out of the sail at the back of the mast. "PRB passed to leeward," he said. "After an hour the job was done and after several hours I passed Isabelle and settled down for 30 minutes' kip."

He had just shut his eyes when a thud announced that the spinnaker had dropped into the water. He climbed the mast to replace the broken halyard and watched PRB disappear over the horizon. After a spare he closed to within 10 miles of Autissier, 1,000 miles into this first leg from Charleston to Cape Town.

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# SportsGuardian

Norwegians blown away as wayward striker rediscovers his form

Uefa Cup first round, second leg: Stromsgodset 0 Aston Villa 3 (aggregate 2-6)

## Collymore back with a hat-trick

Russell Thomas  
in Drammen

**S**TAN COLLYMORE reannounced his striking prowess on the European stage here last night with a hat-trick that will be vividly recalled as Aston Villa's manager John Gregory selects teams to defend their proud Premiership position.

Villa's £7 million record signing will confront much better defences than that of the distressed Norwegians but that cannot detract from a

### Match stats

	Strom	Villa
Possession	32%	68%
Attempts on target	6	5
Attempts off target	6	4
Corners	6	3
Fouls	7	9
Offsides	2	3
Bookings	0	2

timely display of often unfulfilled talent.

European conflict seems to suit Collymore, given that his previous goal was his stunning effort against Atletico Madrid six months ago. Here, he was creator and executioner in another disciplined and efficient Villa performance.

There were scarcely any of the alarms that afflicted Villa in the first leg and the part-timers soon faced a climb as steep as the ski slope brilliantly illuminated behind one end of the Marienlyst Stadium.

Unfortunately for the Stromsgodset faithful, their worst fears were realised by two explosions from Collymore in an attractive and by no means one-sided first half.

The Norwegians were bolstered by two former Premiership war-horses, Jostein Flo, once of Sheffield United, and the rugged Erlend Johnson, the former Chelsea centre-back. Johnson made a physical impression on Collymore but Flo, often raiding



Two up, one to go... Stan Collymore sidefoots his and Aston Villa's second goal before completing his hat-trick

alone up front, could not make the same striking impact as Villa's £7 million man. The Norwegians were neat, economical and often quick but their first lapse of technique, after 10 minutes, was ruthlessly punished. When Johnson, under no great pressure, lost possession on the

edge of the area Collymore's response was impressively unforgiving. A quick sight of goal was followed by an emphatic right-foot shot into the far corner with Glenn Arne Hansen utterly beaten.

Collymore's confidence soared and he could not resist another, more hopeful shot from similar range seven minutes later. This effort flew over but in Villa's next attack of note the striker calmly readjusted his sights.

A Gary Charles cross from the right caused havoc in the home area, the ball eluding everyone but Hansen, who could only push it towards

Jan Taylor. A lay-back saw Mark Draper shoot, the ball taking a deflection to Collymore, whose left foot dispatched the ball home.

Before and after these goals Flo demonstrated the aerial menace once feared by Graham Taylor's England. An early header set up the impressive Christopher George, whose header passed narrowly over Mark Bosnich's crossbar. Then, as Villa relaxed on the cushion of their two-goal lead, Flo reminded everyone of his menace by springing impressively to bring a smart save from Villa's goalkeeper.

Further encouraging interchanges between Collymore and Julian Joachim were an eye-catching feature of the second half. Once Collymore superbly supplied his co-striker with the opportunity to drive in a fierce angled shot Joachim soon returned the compliment, a wonderful chipped pass from the left sending Collymore on his way. He brushed aside Thomas Washler but Hansen's outstretched leg diverted the shot to safety.

Joachim's contribution was more productive in the 64th minute. The striker somehow eluded Lars Granas on the byline and his cross was so precise that Collymore, barely a yard out, needed only the simplest of connections to complete his hat-trick.

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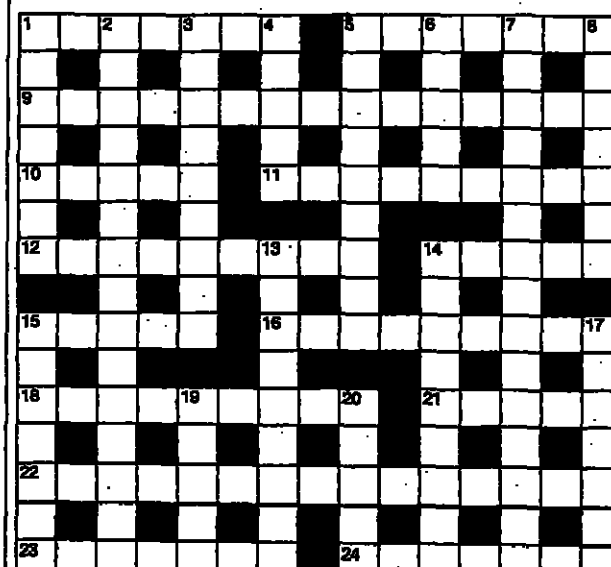
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You're unlikely to see their concerts reviewed. Yet, if they produced installations with the energy and originality with which they produce scores, you might see their work in the Saatchi gallery. . . Charlotte Higgins

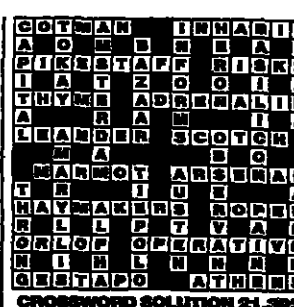
G2 p10

### Guardian Crossword No 21,393

Set by Araucaria



- Across**
- Scientist finds omission for error in the sea (7)
  - Picture of fat lot receiving a knock (7)
  - Word book, gold backed, reaches the end of the great reptiles (5,9)
  - Not the worker's position (5)
  - Reptile's skin contorted with anger (4-5)
  - Surprisingly Blair made good (8)
  - Sport about to bed down on the floor (5)
  - Cross when it's built on some might say - but don't (5,4)
  - Flaw - wrote "diverse" for "divers" (9)
  - Look to see where actors come in and suffer society? (4,5)
  - Strap the end of two vowels together (5)
  - I would say "thingamabob": - (4,2,3,4,2)
  - Article with a strap in it (7)
  - Competition for Royal Mail in posttime? (4-5)
- Down**
- Irregular sounding primate (7)
  - True plays when they were within the law? (10,5)
  - True plays produced with prologue by vicar? (3,2,4)
  - Predator of 16 has gone too far with Queen (5)
  - Grin when it's built on some might say - but don't (5,4)
  - Heard the value of Paris to Harry (5)
  - Cart had trouble next: best third (4,3,2,5)
  - OIA leaves monk with tank (7)
  - The Queen Mother was present when Wesley came in - point taken (5-4)
  - River's entering well with fish - not the lowest part (5,4)
  - One who gets 50% in an IQ test? (7)
  - Match for boat? (7)
  - Sponge died in prison (5)
  - Provide example of English humour? (5)



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